FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-92-132
Thursday
9 July 1992

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-92-132 CONTENTS *9 July 1992*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

FRONT PAGE

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

U.S. Withdrawal of Nuclear Weapons Welcomed *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 8 Jul]* 2
Ukraine Officials on Coordinated Arms Control *[INTERFAX]* 2
Russia Being 'Squeezed Out' of Nuclear Market *[PRAVDA 2 Jul]* 3
Scrapping of Arms To Cost 100 Billion Rubles *[INTERFAX]* 3
Dubna Conference Approves Plan, Admits Uzbekistan *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 4 Jul]* 3
U.S., CIS Nuclear Submarines Safety Viewed *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 2 Jul]* 4
Expedition Finds Cracks in Komsomolets Hull *[IZVESTIYA 3 Jul]* 4
University Students Exposed to Radiation *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 1 Jul]* 5

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

G-7 Summit, Russian Role, Goals Previewed *[Moscow Radio]* 6
G-7 Economic Summit Held in Munich 6
    Communique Issued *[ITAR-TASS]* 6
    Bush on Russian Reform *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
    G-7 Split on Russian Entry *[IZVESTIYA 7 Jul]* 7
    France 'Skeptical' Over Entry *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
    Yeltsin Refuses To Discuss Kurils *[Moscow TV]* 7
    Further on Japanese Ties *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
    Germany's Kohl on Assitance *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
    Yeltsin Meets With Kohl *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
    Yeltsin, Kohl Hold News Conference *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
    Kozyrev Meets Germany's Kinkel *[ITAR-TASS]* 13
    Kozyrev Meets Italy's Scotti *[ITAR-TASS]* 13
    Gaydar on 'Significant Progress' *[Moscow Radio]* 13
    Gaydar on Results *[INTERFAX]* 13
    Further on Gaydar Comments *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
    Summit Yeilds Funds for Russia *[Moscow Radio]* 14
Yeltsin Arrives For CSCE Summit, Notes G-7 *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
    Summit Opens *[ITAR-TASS]* 14
Yeltsin Meets With Georgian, Polish Leaders *[Radio Rossii]* 15
ITAR-TASS: Human Rights Group Condemns Romania 15
Reports of Foreign Aircraft Downings Denied *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 4 Jul]* 16

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

Military

Chief of Staff Outlines Command Structure *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 3 Jul]* 17
Shaposhnikov Holds News Conference 8 Jul *[Moscow TV]* 19
    Outlines Main Role of Armed Forces *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
    Discusses Military Coordination *[Moscow Radio]* 20
    Notes 'Disengagement Forces' *[INTERFAX]* 21
    Explains Strategic Forces Status *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Jul]* 21
Shaposhnikov Accuses Ukraine of Violations *[Moscow International]* 22

Black Sea Fleet Issues

- General Accused of Violating Fleet Agreement *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
- Officers Threaten To Create Russian Fleet *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
- Admiral Says Fleet Issue Growing Complicated *[INTERFAX]* 22
- Minesweeper Crew Takes Oath in Breach of Accord *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 2 Jul]* 23

Media

- ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 9 Jul 23

RUSSIA

International Affairs

- Lebed Statement Accuses Moldova of 'Fascism' *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 7 Jul]* 25
- Quadripartite Talks on Dniester Conflict Held *[INTERFAX]* 26
- Diplomat Outlines Goals, Policy on Georgia *[INTERFAX]* 27
- Khasbulatov Recieves Georgian Delegation *[Russian TV]* 27
  - Further on Meeting *[ITAR-TASS]* 27
- Funds Allocated To Aid South Ossetia *[Moscow Radio]* 27
- Joint Action With Georgia in Ossestia Begins *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 9 Jul]* 28
- Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gives News Briefing 28
  - Comments on Yugoslav Sanctions, Honecker *[ITAR-TASS]* 28
  - Voices 'Concern' at U.S. Senators *[IZVESITYA 9 Jul]* 28
  - Views U.S. Moves on Nuclear Arms *[ITAR-TASS]* 28
- Diplomat Notes Relations With Finland *[INTERFAX]* 29
- Gaydar, Lithuanian Leader Hold Economic Talks *[BALTFAX]* 29
  - Discrimination Charges Denied *[ITAR-TASS]* 30
- Estonia Warned Over Russian Discrimination *[IZVESTIYA 3 Jul]* 30
- Estonia Urged To Prepare Citizenship Agreement *[Moscow International]* 30
- Agreement Reached on CIS Affairs Minister Post *[Radio Rossii]* 30
  - Outcome of CIS Summit Summed Up *[Moscow Radio]* 30
- U.S. Warships Visit for Joint Manuevers *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 7 Jul]* 31
- UK Warship Visits Baltiysk for Joint Exercise *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 8 Jul]* 31

Federation Affairs

- Rutskoy Addresses Urgent Agricultural Measures *[INTERFAX]* 32
  - 'Battle for Harvest' Begun *[Russian TV]* 32
  - Provincial Strikes Foreseen *[Moscow TV]* 32
- Lebed Remarks Form 'Ultimatum' to Yeltsin *[IZVESTIYA 8 Jul]* 32
  - Banned From Media Contact *[Russian TV]* 33
- Yeltsin Assesses First Year of Presidency *[Belgrade VREME 15 Jun]* 34
- Khasbulatov on Ideas To Improve Reform Program *[ITAR-TASS]* 36
- Shumeyko Signs Ordinance To Reorganize Cabinet *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 4 Jul]* 37
- Trade Officials Dismissed; Aides Under Review *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 4 Jul]* 37
- Customs Duties Decision Spurs Oil Exploitation *[Radio Rossii]* 37
- 'Everyone' To Be 'Property Owner' This Year *[PRAVDA 30 Jun]* 37
- Chubays Appoints European Banker as Adviser *[INTERFAX]* 38
- Defense, Security Ministries Deny Coup Rumors *[Russian TV]* 38
  - Result of 'Warped' Awareness *[Moscow Radio]* 38
  - Local Disturbances Possible *[ITAR-TASS]* 39
- State Security Official on New Draft Law *[Moscow TV]* 40
- Commission Remarks on KGB, CPSU Archives *[ITAR-TASS]* 42
- New Bloc 'Counterweight' to 'Civic Union' *[ROSSKIYSKIYE VESTI 4 Jul]* 42
  - Radical Democrats Defend Gaydar *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 7 Jul]* 43
- Radical Democrats Call For Apparatchiks Removal *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 7 Jul]* 44
- Unionists Form Assembly for Social Partnership *[INTERFAX]* 44
  - Volskiy Comments Noted *[INTERFAX]* 44
- Mironov Notes CFE Impact on Armed Forces *[ITAR-TASS]* 44

Transcaucasus Commander Anticipates 'Attacks' *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 2 Jul]* ... 45
Military Media Face Readjustment in Hard Times *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 4 Jul]* ... 45
New Editor Appointed for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 7 Jul]* ... 45
IZVESTIYA To Drop Some Local Editions *[IZVESTIYA 1 Jul]* ... 46
Committee Set Up To Solve Harvest Problems *[Moscow TV]* ... 46
    Shcherbak To Head Group *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 4 Jul]* ... 46
    Operational Staff Formed *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 7 Jul]* ... 46
Khlystun Addresses Food Procurement Problems *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 3 Jul]* ... 47
    98 Million Tonnes Expected *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 47
Military To Help Harvest Crops This Year *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 48
Minister on Case for 'Harvest Campaign' *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 30 Jun]* ... 48
Feasibility of Harvest Measures Discussed *[IZVESTIYA 9 Jul]* ... 49
Ministry Wrestles With Problem of Grain Prices *[INTERFAX]* ... 49
Agricultural Developments for 2-8 Jul Noted *[ITAR-TASS, etc.]* ... 50
Food Prices Increase 3 Percent in Jun *[IZVESTIYA 30 Jun]* ... 51
Draft of Energy Policy Outlines Crisis Measures *[INTERFAX]* ... 51
Deputy Minister on Ruble Exchange Rate *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 1 Jul]* ... 52
Mir Cosmonauts Make 2-Hour Space Walk *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 53
Cosmos-2196 Launched From Plesetsk *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 54

Supreme Soviet

Deputies Call For Army Involvement in Dniester *[Moscow Radio]* ... 54
Mironov Addresses Deputies on CFE Treaty *[Russian TV]* ... 54
    Reductions Outlined *[INTERFAX]* ... 54
    Foreign Ministry Official Comments *[Moscow Radio]* ... 55
Resolution Adopted on Chemical, Biological Arms *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 55
    Rubles Allocated for 'Scrapping' *[INTERFAX]* ... 56
Law on Federal State Security Bodies Adopted *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 56
Law on Foreign Intelligence Adopted *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 56
Kokoshin Explains New Defense Law *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 56
Fiscal System Law Sent Back to Supreme Soviet *[INTERFAX]* ... 57
Group Suggests Yeltsin Veto Law on Cooperatives *[Radio Rossii]* ... 57
Stance on Serbian Sanctions Explained *[IZVESTIYA 30 Jun]* ... 57
Bank Official Comments on Enterprise Debts *[Russian TV]* ... 58
Hearings Into Anti-Semitism Postponed *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 30 Jun]* ... 59
Parliament Passes Law on Territorial Disputes *[INTERFAX]* ... 59
Parliament Adopts Law on Psychiatric Aid *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 59

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Kravchuk Meets Belgian Foreign, Prime Ministers *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 60
    Holds Talks With Foreign Minister *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 60
    Signs Declaration on Ties *[Kiev Radio]* ... 60
    Meets Belgian Businessmen *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 60
    Ends Visit, Leaves For Helsinki *[ITAR-TASS]* ... 61

National Affairs

Economy Minister 'Not Going To Resign' *[UKRINFORM]* ... 61
National Security Council Composition Detailed *[Kiev Radio]* ... 61
Crimea Decides To Not Hold 2 Aug Refefendum *[INTERFAX]* ... 62

WESTERN REGION

Byelarus

Army's Participation in Moldova Ruled Out *[POSTFACTUM]* ... 63
Caution Advised in Nuclear Arms Withdrawal *[POSTFACTUM]* ... 63

- Status of Officers Serving in Republics Examined *[INTERFAX]* 63

Moldova

- Defense Minister Rejects Lebed's Statement *[INTERFAX]* 64
- Parliament Ratifies Armed Forces Treaty *[ITAR-TASS]* 64
- Dniester Accuses Moldova of 'Severe Violation' *[ITAR-TASS]* 64
- Further Reportage on Batallion Movements *[ITAR-TASS]* 65
- Military Activity Noted; 'Second Front' Feared *[Bucharest ROMPRES]* 65
- Cease-Fire Order Signed by All Sides *[ITAR-TASS]* 65
- Clashes, Cease-Fire Situation Updated *[ITAR-TASS]* 66
- Defense Minister on Dniester Disengagement *[INTERFAX]* 66
- Presidential Aide on Cease-Fire Machinery *[INTERFAX]* 66
- Snegur Notes 'Promising Result' in Cease-Fire *[Bucharest ROMPRES]* 67
- Cease-Fire Fails; 10 Casualties in Bendery *[ITAR-TASS]* 67
- Foreign Minister Praises U.S. Relations *[Chisinau Radio]* 67

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

- Security Committee Hold News Conference *[Alma-Ata Radio]* 68
- Law on International Groups Membership Signed *[Alma-Ata Radio]* 68
- President Signs Decree on Harvesting of Crops *[INTERFAX]* 68
- Special Measures for Harvest Announced *[Alma-Ata Radio]* 68
- Supreme Soviet Passes Privatization Resolution *[ITAR-TASS]* 68

Tajikistan

- Militants Crossing From Afghanistan 'Routed' *[Moscow International]* 69
- Border Guards Deny Presence of Afghan Mojaheddin *[INTERFAX]* 69
- President Approves State-Run Migration Service *[ITAR-TASS]* 69
- Bush Promises Nabiyev Humanitarian Aid *[INTERFAX]* 69
- Deputy Chairman of Defense Committee Appointed *[Dushanbe Radio]* 69

CAUCASUS

Armenia

- Ter-Petrosyan, Opposition Clash Over Recognition *[IZVESTIYA 3 Jul]* 70
- Ter-Petrosyan Issues Statement on Nagorno-Karabakh *[INTERFAX]* 70
- Reports of President's Resignation 'Unrealistic' *[INTERFAX]* 70
- 'Consistent Support' Pledged to Nagorno-Karabakh *[INTERFAX]* 71
- Supreme Soviet Chairman's Resignation Rejected *[Yerevan Radio]* 71
  - Further on Decision *[Yerevan Radio]* 71
- Presidential Press Service Denies CIS Decision *[Yerevan International]* 72
- Vice President Arutyunyan Leaves for PRC 72
  - Li Peng Comments on Relations *[ITAR-TASS]* 72
  - Enterprises Visited *[ITAR-TASS]* 73
  - Five Accords Signed *[ITAR-TASS]* 73
  - Visit Concludes *[Yerevan Radio]* 73
- Azerbaijani Attacks in Karabakh Repulsed *[ITAR-TASS]* 74
- Shelling Reported on Border; Situation 'Tense' *[Yerevan Radio]* 74
- Forces Prevented From Crossing Terter River *[Yerevan Radio]* 74
  - Update on Incidents *[Yerevan Radio]* 74
- Two Russian Army Divisions Transfer to Armenia *[Russian TV]* 75

Azerbaijan

- Unilateral Cease-Fire Announced at CSCE Meeting *[Radio Rossii]* 75
  - Cease-Fire 'Already' Violated *[Moscow TV]* 75

  - Ministry Reports 8 Jul Clashes *[Baku Radio]* 75
  - Armenian Villages Retaken *[Ankara TV]* 76
  - 39 Populated Areas Seized *[Russian TV]* 76
  - Recognition: 'Continuation of War' *[Ankara ANATOLIA]* 76
  - Damage, Casualties Described *[ITAR-TASS]* 76
  - Foreign Ministry on Cease-Fire *[INTERFAX]* 77
- Clashes in Border Rayons 6-7 Jul Described *[Baku Radio]* 77
- Iran Accused of Supplying Nagorno-Karabakh *[INTERFAX]* 77
- Nakhichevan Official on Humanitarian Aid *[Tehran Radio]* 77
- Nakhichevan's Geydar Thanks Iran for Assistance *[Tehran IRNA]* 77
- Weapons Confiscated by Decree in Nakhichevan *[ITAR-TASS]* 78
- Russian Troops Want Out of Nakhichevan *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 8 Jul]* 78
- Retired Turkish Officers Appointed as Advisers *[Istanbul CUMHURIYET 5 Jul]* 79
- Caspian Flotilla Council on Criminal Acts *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 2 Jul]* 79
- Iran Seen as Factor for Regional Stability *[Tehran IRNA]* 79
- Iranian Ambassador Meets With Foreign Minister *[Tehran Radio]* 79
- Pipeline Agreement Signed With Iran, Ukraine *[ASSA-IRADA]* 80
- Joint Education Protocol Signed With Iraq *[Baghdad INA]* 80
- Foreign Minister Meets With Israeli Envoy *[Radio Rossii]* 80
- Regime Favors Speedy Parliamentary Elections *[INTERFAX]* 80
- New Political Party Holds First Congress *[ITAR-TASS]* 80
- Oil Cooperation Discussed with Oman Minister *[ASSA-IRADA]* 80
- Two Oil Research Centers To Be Established *[ASSA-IRADA]* 81

Georgia

- Coup Attempt Discussed, Curfew Extended *[IZVESTIYA 3 Jul]* 81
- NIP Appeals for Halt to Russian 'Aggression' *[SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 23 Jun]* 81
- Guard Staying Until Order Established in Region *[INTERFAX]* 82
- Sigua Interviewed on Ties, Regional Security *[Tehran RESALAT 22 Jun]* 82
- Diplomatic Relations Established With Finland *[INTERFAX]* 82
- Chechen Foreign Minister Meets Various Leaders *[Tbilisi Radio]* 83
- Shevardnadze Receives German Minister on 2 Jul *[INTERFAX]* 83
  - Cooperation Discussed *[INTERFAX]* 83
  - 'Full Support' for Reforms *[INTERFAX]* 83
- Talks Between Georgia, Abkhazia Continue *[Radio Rossii]* 84
  - 'Certain Improvement' Noted *[Radio Rossii]* 84
- Party Leaders Interviewed on Fall Elections *[SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA 28 May]* 84
- New Acting Information Minister Appointed *[SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 26 Jun]* 86
- Retired Officers Mobilized; Helicopter Shelled *[INTERFAX]* 86
- Helicopter Downed by Russian Forces in Ossetia *[Russian TV]* 86
- South Ossetia 'Unstable'; Shelling Continues *[Radio Rossii]* 86
- Rail Traffic Normalizes in West Georgia *[Radio Rossii]* 87
- International Bank Recommends Granting Credits *[Tbilisi Radio]* 87
- Government Resolution on New Customs Duties *[SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 16 May]* 87
- Gas Pipeline to Armenia Resumes Operation *[Moscow TV]* 87

Russian Officials Attend G-7 Summit

ITAR-TASS reports that at a news conference with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Russian President Yeltsin, in response to a question about whether or not he was satisfied with the "program of aid to Russia which the G-7 is offering", stated that "the proposal expressed today and supported by all relates to Russia as an equal without any discrimination or limits in trade, on offering it market and most favored nation status, which Russia has already done for all the states. This suits us. Was I expecting more or less? I was not expecting more; I did not want less."

According to Moscow Radio, Yegor Gaydar, acting Russian prime minister, "assessed the atmosphere at the G-7 meeting in Munich as positive in the highest degree." According to him, "the specification of the package of financial assistance for Russian reforms by the G-7 and international financial organizations is of great importance" and the "results of the talks will make possible significant progress on the way to opening Western markets to Russian goods."

CIS Armed Forces Commander Holds News Conference

During a news conference held on 8 July, Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, Commander in Chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, said "the CIS states are soon to set up their own special armed forces to preserve peace both within the Commonwealth and on its external borders," Moscow TV reports. He added that these forces will be used in the Dniester region first and probably in the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Shaposhnikov said, however, that CIS foreign and defense ministers will meet in Minsk on 16 July "to define the functioning and use of CIS peace-keeping forces," ITAR-TASS reports.

Shaposhnikov also outlined the basic functions of the main command of the CIS Armed Forces which will include "single control and centralised management of strategic nuclear arms, coordination of military doctrines and military reforms of CIS countries, settling of armed conflicts both inside the Commonwealth on along its borders," reports ITAR-TASS.

14th Army Commander Banned From Media Contact

Major General A.I. Lebed, commander of the 14th Army, who stated to journalists the Russian policy toward Moldova "is little understood and almost unitelligible" is, according to IZVESTIYA, "in reality...delivering an ultimatum to his government and his commander in chief."

Russian TV reports the leadership of the Russian Defense Ministry has "forbidden" Major General Lebed "contact with the mass media" and considers his statements on the illegality of the Moldovan Government "merely the personal opinion of the Russian officer."

Nagorno-Karabakh Cease-Fire Announced, Violated

Radio Rossii reports that Azerbaijan's President Elchibey announced a unilateral cease-fire at the CSCE meeting on 8 July. INTERFAX notes that the Azerbaijani Foreign Minister noted that the cease-fire had been "violated by the Armenian side." Moscow TV reports that, according to a telegram from an Armenia press center "at 2230 on 8 July a large-scale attack by the Azerbaijani Army started on the Mardakert front in the direction of the villages of Vaguaz and Mekhman. Approximately 80 tanks and APC's, and large numbers of infantry are taking part in the attack."

Ankara ANATOLIA press agency reports that President Elchibey also stated on 8 July that "the recognition of the breakaway Armenian state in Karabakh by the Armenian Republic meant the continuation of war in the region."

U.S. Withdrawal of Nuclear Weapons Welcomed

PM0907125592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jul 92 p 3

[M. Aleksandrov article: "When Words Are Followed By Actions"]

[Text] As KRASNAYA ZVEZDA has already reported, the United States has completed the process of withdrawing tactical nuclear arms from other countries' territory. This is an extraordinary event. It attests that the international climate is continuing to improve and the danger of nuclear war is receding more and more.

It should be recalled that the decision to eliminate its entire world arsenal of short-range nuclear weapons, in other words U.S. theater nuclear weapons, came last September. It was made public in President G. Bush's televised address to the nation in which he set out other wide-ranging initiatives by Washington in the sphere of disarmament and of reducing military confrontation. At first commentators in both Moscow and the capitals of other countries took a rather cautious view of this. Politicians from various countries have made all too many fine speeches over the last few years and they have made all too many promises of various kinds. But by no means all of these have been implemented.

Yet we can now see that words are being followed by actions. The world is being rid of another category of nuclear arms—this time tactical arms. The initiative was taken by the former Soviet Union, which removed from central Europe in 1989 500 combat tactical weapons (166 aircraft bombs, 50 artillery shells, and 284 missiles) and subsequently another 200 tactical missile launchers (the "Tochka" and "Luna" complexes), more than 3,000 nuclear artillery pieces (artillery pieces of 152 mm and over capable of firing nuclear shells), and a corresponding quantity of nuclear munitions. This year the withdrawal of tactical nuclear weapons not only from central Europe but also from Ukraine and Byelarus was completed.

Now the United States has traveled its part of the way too. Implementing the initiative announced by G. Bush last September, it has completed the withdrawal from Europe for subsequent destruction of all the remaining 1,000 nuclear artillery shells and 700 "Lance" short-range missile warheads, as well as 200 B-57 depth charges and 500 sea-launched missiles. A measure which the U.S. President himself described as historic.

Well, one must agree with him. Not only because another major step has been taken toward nuclear disarmament. But above all perhaps because it is becoming obvious to everyone that words are being followed by actions.

Ukraine Officials on Coordinated Arms Control

OW0607210492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1833 GMT 6 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Behind the scenes of the Moscow CIS summit senior Russian military experts have been saying they are pessimistic about the possibility of coordinated control of strategic nuclear arms. They say that Ukraine's position on that issue leaves no hope that the nuclear forces deployed on its territory can be jointly controlled. The experts say that this is nothing but Ukraine's intention to remain a nuclear power despite its pronounced commitment to its intention to go nuclear-free.

Experts from the General Staff of the Russian armed forces recall that the CIS Defence Ministers' conference was offered three options: the withdrawal of all nuclear warheads from Ukraine and their subsequent elimination; the replacement of the warheads with simulators; the simple dismantling of the warheads from the delivery vehicles and their keeping at Ukrainian bases. All the three proposals were rejected. Russian experts have blamed that on the "lack of goodwill". President Leonid Kravchuk said on Monday [6 July] that the principle of Ukraine's administrative control of strategic nuclear arms on its territory remained unchanged.

The Russian military experts say this places Russia in a very difficult position, for it is the depository country of the nuclear arms non-proliferation treaty. Any agreements that implement that treaty partially put Russia itself in the position of its abuser. The experts have described as a stumbling block President Yeltsin's April decree N 209, which in effect placed strategic offensive arms in Ukraine under his control. The Russian experts say this is a legal trap.

[Moscow INTERFAX in English, during the same 1833 GMT cast, transmits the following: "Ukraine insists on keeping nuclear warheads in assembly with the delivery vehicles deployed on its territory, largely because it has no confidence in Marshal Shaposhnikov's statements", the Ukrainian Deputy Defence Minister Ivan Bizhan has told INTERFAX. "We have been offered to replace those warheads with non-nuclear equivalents", Bizhan said. "However it is quite clear that there are not enough equivalents for all missiles. [no end quotation mark as received] Without them the delivery vehicles may become dangerous.

[Ivan Bizhan explained his doubts by the fact that six months ago in Alma-Ata the Council of the Heads of State and government asked the CIS Commander-in-Chief Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov to provide the Ukrainian president with the technical means to block the use of nuclear arms. "Shaposhnikov said he would do that, but has failed to do anything to this date", Bizhan said. Moreover, he claims that this is impossible. For that reason we want a comprehensive and consistent settlement of the problem, the more so since this does not disagree with the START-2 treaty.

[Asked about what made Ukraine change its position after it had already announced it was going to remove all nuclear arms from its territory by 1994, Ivan Bizhan said: "Our experts have studied the technical aspects of the problem and found that it cannot be done sooner than seven years".

[About another proposal from the CIS allied command for cancelling the targeting of the missiles Ivan Bizhan said it was none of Ukraine's problem, but if that could be done, Ukraine would have nothing against.]

Russia Being 'Squeezed Out' of Nuclear Market

PM0307143592 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Jul 92 p 2

[Igor Mosin report: "More Terrible Than a Nuclear Explosion"]

[Excerpts] Foreign firms are trying to squeeze our industrialists out of yet another sphere of international business.

This time it is the nuclear power industry. This question surfaced rather unexpectedly at a press conference devoted to problems of the safety of nuclear power stations in the former USSR. But A. Lapshin, chief of Russia's Main Administration for Development of the Nuclear Power Industry, confirmed that recently their sector has been experiencing strong pressure from the West. The main theme of the articles is that the situation in the Russian nuclear power industry is poor, former Soviet nuclear power stations should be shut down, and in general it is better to have nothing to do with Russian nuclear specialists. We regard this campaign as an attempt to squeeze us out of the nuclear power market in West Europe, Lapshin said. [passage omitted]

You cannot help recalling the business over the sale of rocket engines to India. They wanted to deprive us of even the vital $24 billion that Gaydar managed at great cost to extract from the IMF if we dared to conclude a contract. Now there is another piece of news. The Americans are offering $1 billion to the Ulyanovsk plant that produces the aircraft with the biggest freight capacity in the world. To ensure that the plant produces no more of them and that they have no competitors. Now it comes to nuclear power. Notice that we are being squeezed out in spheres where we are up to world standards—space, the defense industry, nuclear power. This is a policy. [passage omitted]

Scrapping of Arms To Cost 100 Billion Rubles

OW0807151092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia proclaimed its intention to sign a global convention on banning chemical arms and pledged to scrap their stockpiles. However the implementation of these commitments is in a critical state, said Dr. A. Kuntsevich, chairman of the committee on conventional problems connected with chemical and biological weapons, in his report.

He pointed to the lack of a concrete program or schedule for the scrapping of chemical arsenals and to the absence of a special industrial base needed for this purpose. "The experimental facility built for this purpose in Chapayevsk is besieged by the public. Local government bodies refuse to authorize the construction of facilities for the scrapping of chemical arms on their soil", he said.

Besides, A. Kuntsevich mentioned difficulties connected with the financing of specialized research centers and "former facilities for the production of chemical arms where work is suspended". This leads to a loss of "unique specialists" experienced in handling toxic substances.

Under the circumstances the committee led by A. Kuntsevich suggests in accordance with the Russian President's decree of June 12 that a network of plants for scrapping chemical arms should be created step by step.

The committee finds it necessary to resume, as the first step, "limited work at a plant built for the production of chemical arms in order to process (scrap) chemical arsenals with subsequent reconstruction aimed at increasing its capacity". According to committee members, this is the most economical way making it possible for Russia to draw nearer the time when it will begin to fulfil its international commitments.

The committee also believes that at the same time it's necessary to ensure "readiness for scrapping" the old toxic substances kept in storage reservoirs in Udmurtia and in Saratov Region. Besides, it's necessary to design a "mobile complex" for scrapping chemical arms and set up a national control center, laboratories and "other organizations for accomplishing conventional tasks".

The committee also calls for taking measures aimed at ensuring social security for those who work at the facilities for scrapping chemical arms, and at improving the living standards of people who reside in the vicinity of such plants.

In his report Dr. A. Kuntsevich estimates that the annual expenses connected with the efforts to scrap chemical weapons might amount to 5 or 10 billion rubles. It's imperative to allocate no less than 1.8 billion rubles for these needs in the current year. As for the overall expenditure connected with the scrapping of chemical weapons, it will make up no less than 100 billion rubles that can be partially compensated by means of converting various chemical arms components into products for civilian needs".

Dubna Conference Approves Plan, Admits Uzbekistan

PM0907101492 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Jul 92 First Edition p 8

[B. Starchenko report: "Meeting at Dubna"]

[Text] A conference of the Committee of Plenipotentiaries of the 17 member states of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research has taken place at Dubna, near Moscow. The sittings of the Committee of Plenipotentiaries took place under the chairmanship of B.G. Saltykov, vice premier of the Russian Government. Representatives of the FRG, Italy, Latvia, and Lithuania were present at the conference as observers.

The Committee of Plenipotentiaries session approved a problem-solving and subject plan for scientific research work and international cooperation for this year on top priority topics. A new director of the institute was elected—Professor V.G. Kadyshevskiy, corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The Republic of Uzbekistan was admitted as a member state of the institute.

U.S., CIS Nuclear Submarines Safety Viewed

PM0607112592 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Jul 92 p 3

[Interview with Captain First Rank G. Tishchenko and Captain First Rank P. Smirnov conducted by N. Litkovets, senior officer at the Pacific Fleet press center, under the "Authoritative Opinion" rubric; time and place not given: "Whose Submarines Are More Dangerous?"—first two paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] The report distributed by ITAR-TASS that American specialists have fears about "the atomic reactors installed on CIS submarines" has been picked up by all the Russian newspapers. It is declared that these reactors do not match up to American safety standards and that a host of problems are associated with them. Moreover, the U.S. military department regards "the nuclear submarines of the former USSR Navy as delayed-action atomic bombs."

What lies behind this newspaper action? I spoke about this to two of our country's specialists—Captain First Rank G. Tishchenko and Captain First Rank P. Smirnov.

[Tishenko] This is undoubtedly a propaganda stunt designed to undermine our Navy's combat readiness. It does not surprise me that it came about—this is what certain U.S. services usually get up to. But I am surprised at the readiness with which all this was taken up in our country!

As far as the actual charge is concerned, I can say that our establishments—the Kurchatov institute and other institutes engaged in designing nuclear power units—are strictly subject to the requirements of the State Committee for the Supervision of Nuclear and Radiation Safety, which, for its part, now belongs to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

Yes, accidents do occur on atomic submarines. But why suggest to people that they occur only on "Russian" ships. The Americans consider our vessels unsafe, and I consider their submarines unsafe. And there is quite a lot of evidence to back this up.

[Smirnov] I have an article in front of me from the Hamburg magazine DIE ZEIT. It analyzes the state of American submarines: overexposure to radiation, typical faults, the covering up of incidents... I will quote from it: "The ships' logs contain no mention of emergency situations, and instances of toxic substances' being discharged at sea are persistently denied. Daily life on the ships is shrouded in a veil of military secrecy. Whenever malfunctions occurred, we had to undertake never to talk about them."

This is the testimony of Robert Pollard, former nuclear safety officer aboard the submarime Sargo [as published].

Expedition Finds Cracks in Komsomolets Hull

PM0807143792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Yevgeniy Shestakov report: "Expedition to Site of Sinking of Nuclear Submarine Komsomolets Over"]

[Text] It will scarcely be possible to raise the nuclear submarine Komsomolets, which sank in 1991 in the Norwegian sea. This was the conclusion reached by an expedition organized by scientists of the Oceanology Institute and Kurchatov Institute, and also by representatives of the Navy Main Staff. During its 10 days of work, the expedition discovered previously unnoticed damage and cracks in the hull of the ship.

Of course, it is still too soon to draw final conclusions, but specialists are already predicting a 90-percent chance that if the submarine were raised to the surface it would split apart and there would be an explosive discharge of radioactive substances into the water. This is almost the final blow to the plan of the Dutch specialists who were proposing to raise the Komsomolets to the surface for $200 million, but were not guaranteeing that the operation would succeed.

"Today, the danger of radiation does not threaten the ecosystem around the submarine," Ruben Kosyan, director of the Oceanology Institute Southern Department, believes. "Measurements of background radiation immediately around the hatch containing the nuclear warheads showed no deviations from the norm."

Similar conclusions were reached by specialists from the Norwegian Radiation Hygiene Institute, who conducted experiments independently of our scientists.

However, it is too soon to feel reassured. According to specialists' estimates, destruction of the titanium casing of the nuclear charges will begin to occur from 1995. But whereas even a year ago it would have been necessary to construct a sarcophagus like that at Chernobyl in order to protect them, the military now have "know-how" on their side—polymers that swell in water and create an impenetrable casing immediately around the warheads.

R. Kosyan also rejected the possibility that nuclear warheads from the Komsomolets might fall into the hands of extremist organizations.

"Only five submersibles—three in the West and two in Russia—are (theoretically) capable of raising them from a depth of 1,720 meters (and only theoretically)," he said. "However, taking all the technical and natural factors into account, it is unrealistic to recover nuclear weapons from the Komsomolets."

University Students Exposed to Radiation

MK0207110192 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 1 Jul 92 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Small Chernobyl in Big City"]

[Text] A strong radioactive emission has been discovered on the territory of the Bauman University (the former Moscow Higher Technical School). In certain areas, the background radiation reaches 2,000 microroentgen per hour (against a norm of 15-20). The source of radiation has not yet been located. According to unofficial data, there was a major discharge of radiation here some two years ago. The territory, including the university itself, was badly contaminated. They supposedly called out a special cooperative, which "cleaned up" the students' alma mater for certain recompense. No corroborative documents have been preserved, however.

MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS has been told at the city sanitation and epidemiology inspectorate center that no checks have been made in the university for several years. Although specialists visited the Bauman University a few days ago, they did not manage to look at all the premises: The management forbade them to visit several departments, referring to the secrecy (?) of the project. Many violations were discovered where the specialists did go: Certain instruments and preparations, which should have been buried long ago, are being kept on shelves, there is background radiation of over 1,000 microroentgen per hour in places in the departments, several sources of radiation were not located...

It is interesting that students and even many lecturers have no idea that they are regularly undergoing an intensive course of "radiotherapy."

G-7 Summit, Russian Role, Goals Previewed

LD0807100992 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0630 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Aleksandr Malikov commentary]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] It seems that Russia and the Big Seven group are approaching the moment of truth in their dialogue, when we, in order to enjoy decent life in the future, must tell each other the truth. The truth is that IMF experts are offering a key to reforms which does not fit the Russian door, no matter how well you adjust it. The truth is that Russia and the other CIS members cannot follow absolutely all Western prescriptions for economic recovery without a fear of poisoning themselves.

In the year since the London meeting, Russia and other CIS countries have come right up to fundamental market reforms. However, one cannot fail to notice that at the same time they have come up to the brink of economic tolerance of the people, who need specific and substantial aid as well as trade exchange.

If the West is to go on selling empty promises, then in the end it may lose all its customers. There is a beautiful English proverb saying that you can bring a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink.

G-7 Economic Summit Held in Munich

Communique Issued

LD0807141192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1323 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Munich July 8 TASS—Far reaching changes in the former USSR offer a historic opportunity to make the world safer, more democratical and more prosperous. Under the guidance of President Yeltsin the Russian Government embarked on a difficult process of reforms. This was stated in a final communique adopted by leaders of seven major industrialised countries on the results of the summit and circulated here on Wednesday [8 July]. The communique says that the leaders of the G-7 are looking forward to their meeting with the Russian president to discuss cooperation in the implementation of reforms. They are prepared to cooperate with all the new states that replaced the USSR and embarked on the reforms. The success of the reforms is on the interest of the world community.

The heads of state and government of the Group of Seven said they are ready to offer help to republics of the former USSR so that they could help themselves. They declare for comprehensive cooperation. The document says this cooperation must presuppose that countries which replaced the USSR will be further reducing the military spending and observing the obligations assumed.

The leaders of the Group of Seven called on the new states to pursue a well-considered economic policy, above all reduce the budget deficits and inflation rates. The participants in the forum expressed support for multi-staged strategy of cooperation between the Russian Government and the International Monetary Fund under which the first credits can be granted to Moscow in the weeks ahead. The talk about comprehensive reform programme should be continued. They said it will be possible to implement the entire programme of aid in the amount of 24 billion dollars, of which six billion dollars are meant for the fund for stabilising the rouble, when the necessary macro-economic conditions are created.

The communique says that in order to attract private investments, countries of the former USSR should create favourable conditions, including precise legal guarantees, and should strictly observe financial obligations they assumed. Leaders of the G-7 countries urged former Soviet republics to help create an effective private sector in the economy.

The heads of state and government of the Group of Seven stressed the need to increase the access to international market of goods from countries of the former USSR. These countries should be granted the most favoured nation treatment.

The communique expresses concern over the state of nuclear reactors in the territory of the former USSR and East European countries. Heads of state and government of the Group of Seven believe that these countries should independently bear responsibility for thir safety, while major industrialised powers are prepared to grant them aid in the framework of an international action programme. It was suggested that the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development should coordinate the programme.

In the section devoted to countries of Central and Eastern Europe, with which the Baltic countries are also classed, the communique also welcomes progress achieved by them in the implementation of political and economic reforms and integration in the world economy. At the same time, the communique stresses that these reforms should be vigorously continued.

Leaders of the Group of Seven urged countries of Central and Eastern Europe to develop economic cooperation with each other and with countries of the former USSR, relying on mechanisms of a market economy and guided by the principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The communique welcomes special cooperation between Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and expresses the hope that they will soon be able to establish free trade among themselves.

Bush on Russian Reform

LD0807142492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1356 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Munich July 8 TASS—The U.S. Administration and the governments of other G-7 members fully support the Russian programme of economic reforms, U.S. President George Bush said here at a press conference.

The industrialised nations and leading financial institutions, like the IMF and the World Bank, are ready and will render assistance and technical help to Russia, he added.

However, the president warned that Russian reforms could not be implemented only by means of financial help. It is important to continue the reform process initiated by President Boris Yeltsin. Russia can do much to consolidate reforms, according to the U.S. President.

Bush stressed Yeltsin's visit to Munich was fruitful and added he would not give up his idea of accepting Russia to the G-7 club in future.

G-7 Split on Russian Entry

PM0807153392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 4

[Yevgeniy Bovkun report: "G-7 Ready To Make Sacrifices"]

[Text] Bonn—President Bush's proposal to expand the G-7, increasing the membership of this world industrial club to eight by including Russia, has split the participants in the Munich meeting. Most of them object to this, particularly the FRG and Japan.

The arguments in favor come down to the following: Russia's economic weight is so great that, despite its present economic and political difficulties, it should have the right to vote when the problems of the world economy are being decided. Moreover, the presence of Russia in this "rich men's club" will deprive it of its elite status, advance the G-7's understanding of the problems of less prosperous countries, and enable it to acquire a needed intermediary.

The objections are more numerous, and not all of them are expressed aloud. Many of Bush's opponents would like to use the several billion dollars to urge Russia closer to the market, while at the same time, restraining it a bit longer from making important joint political decisions. No matter how offensive such mistrust may be, it has to be reckoned with. On the other hand, there are perfectly constructive arguments against. Many German economists have long said that East Europe should first be helped to create structures close in their makeup to those of the EC and only then adapt them to the Western ones. It is impossible to combine such heteregenous potential (the G-7 countries, where only 12 percent of the world's population live, produce more than 50 percent of the world's social product) without major losses being suffered by the well-off.

The G-7 members are nevertheless ready to accept certain losses in the interests of subsequent integration. Aid will be given, but it is hedged around by a number of conditions.

The participants in the meeting have set themselves the task of "untying" the $24-billion credit package. Experts remind you here that the total foreign aid promised Gorbachev was $80 billion, of which $11 billion in the form of credit has been channeled into reforms since the end of 1990.

However, at the London meeting last year, Gorbachev failed to present specific reform plans capable of winning the West's trust, and this money intended for the present transformations was lost in the end.

The credits will now be granted to Yeltsin—with a greater hope of a return—since he has already managed to establish his bona fides here as a practical man rather than a moralist. One tough condition, in the end, is that Russia and the CIS have to use the currency reserves of their enterprises held in foreign bank accounts—around 30 billion FRG marks—for the needs of their economy.

Germany, for all its concern about the fate of our reforms and all the toughness of the host of conditions, continues to provide active and concrete support for the transformations in the CIS. On the very eve of the Munich meeting the FRG Economics Ministry drew up a detailed program to coordinate the aid afforded Russia in the form of specialist advice.

There are grounds for hoping that President Yeltsin, who is arriving here only toward the end of the meeting, will leave Munich with a package of constructive aid measures.

France 'Skeptical' Over Entry

LD0807140292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1323 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Munich July 8 TASS—French President Francois Mitterrand is sceptical about prospects for Russia's joining the G-7. That is not possible in the near future, however the volume of joint work with Russia will increase, he said at a press conference here on Wednesday [8 July].

The future of Russia and other former Soviet republics is an issue of priority for France. Russian return to the world community is a key problem of international politics, the French president said.

Yeltsin Refuses To Discuss Kurils

LD0807154092 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Commentary by P. Fil; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpts] President Yeltsin's pushy style was noted in Munich by many observers. [passage omitted]

Today, the presentation of the aid package to Russia's president is to be held in Munich. The package consists of $1 billion in credits and the rescheduling of debts amounting to $2.5 billion. In response, the G-7 awaits the announcement of a timetable for the withdrawal of over 100,000 Russian servicemen from the Baltic states.

There was another thing. Japan tried to bring the issue of the southern Kurils to the surface. On this account, Yeltsin stated that this problem concerns bilateral relations and does not concern the entire Munich forum. The G-7 comrades in arms persuaded Miyazawa to be patient until September, when Yeltsin will come to Japan.

Further on Japanese Ties

LD0807151692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1022 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vasily Golovnin]

[Text] Tokyo July 8 TASS—Ensuring by huge efforts the mention of Japan's territorial issue with Russia in the political declaration of the Group of Seven in Munich, Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has won a personal diplomatic victory, but this success in reality may weaken Tokyo's position in the drawn-out dispute over the South Kurils.

At the present meeting of the leaders of major industrialized countries, Tokyo is too concentrated on its strategic goal of creating an international blockage of Russia over the problem of South Kurils, and in return for the first ever token mention of this issue in the political declaration of the Group of Seven he had to join the United States and Western Europe's decision on new large economic and financial aid to Russia.

The Japanese press is now united in the opinion that Miyazawa's victory in Munich will really turn into an empty sound Tokyo's proclaimed official principle of the indivisibility of the policy and the economy which made prospects for large-scale assistance to Moscow conditional upon its concessions as regards the South Kuriles. The matter is that, as is expected, following the present summit, Japan will have to agree to the deferment of Russia's payment of the debt and to granting it the first credits from the International Monetary Fund, to which Japan had earlier objected quite firmly.

On the other hand, it is apparent that countries of Europe and America have a much more serious attitute to the aid to Moscow than to the problem of the northern territories, writes the Newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN. Europe and America continue to believe that this affair is for the two countries to decide.

Germany's Kohl on Assitance

LD0807140692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1323 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Munich July 8 TASS—by ITAR-TASS:

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said on Wednesday [8 July] the Munich summit heralded hope and confidence that reform in the CIS will succeed. The new democracies which emerged on the territory of the former Soviet Union, must undertake their own efforts to make this happen. The G-7 countries will assist the process, he said.

Kohl stressed that assistance programme will embrace all the new democracies, including the Baltic states.

Yeltsin Meets With Kohl

LD0807130992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1225 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Munich July 8 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who is attending the G-7 summit meeting in Munich, met with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Wednesday [8 July].

The 45-minute discussion, which was also attended by Acting Russian Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar and German Finance Minister Theodor Waigel, the two leaders discussed a wide range of issues concerning relations between the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations and Russia, as well as bilateral relations between Germany and Russia.

Russian Presidential Spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov said Yeltsin informed Kohl about the pace of reforms in Russia, which have entered the second stage. Kohl welcomed reforms in Russia and said the G-7 leaders are ready to support them.

Yeltsin also met with Prime Minister Max Streibl of Bavaria to discuss bilateral relations between Russia and Bavaria, including modernisation of nuclear power plants in Russia. They also agreed that Streibl will visit Moscow some time between October and December 1992.

Yeltsin, Kohl Hold News Conference

LD0907075792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2026 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Munich, 9 Jul—German Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Russian President Boris Yeltsin held a joint news conference here on 8 July in the evening. It was opened by Kohl, who stated:

As the host of the economic summit this year, I would like to inform you about the results of our joint talks with President Yeltsin.

This meeting opens the way for comprehensive and lasting partnership cooperation among the G-7 countries and Russia.

At the start of our talks I informed President Yeltsin about the results of the Munich summit. In turn, President Yeltsin spoke in detail about the political, economic, and social situation in the Russian Federation and about how the implementation of the reforms is progressing. In doing so, he frankly spoke about the obstacles and opposition that he must overcome with the aim of speedily implementing his policy of reforms. President Yeltsin, who chaired the recent meeting of CIS leaders in Moscow, also touched upon the prospects for further cooperation between the states making up the Commonwealth.

President Yeltsin has confirmed his resolve to steadfastly continue the course of reforms that he has adopted. In turn, we resolutely support him in this intention. At the same time, we have expressed our understanding of the fact that the implementation of reforms takes time, and that it is very important that they also find support among the people who will be forced to encounter restrictions and make sacrifices during the transitional period.

It goes without saying—and we have unanimously emphasized this—that all new independent states preserve the sovereign right to independently set the scale and pace of these reforms. At the same time, we have emphasized that in no state should outside aid replace the efforts made by the state. The following are priority spheres for the implementation of the reforms: general economic stabilization, which must be reached by carrying out a stricter financial policy; further measures aimed at establishing market structures; and the creation of the necessary conditions for mobilizing the influx of foreign capital.

We, the participating countries in this summit, have confirmed our readiness to give our comprehensive support to these efforts. In this way we want to make our contribution toward strengthening the Russian people's faith in the success of these reforms.

For this purpose we have reached agreement on the program of "aid for self-aid" which consists of 10 points. Specifically, it envisages the following: The G-7 welcomes Russia's agreement with the IMF on closer cooperation. The agreement on the first credits being provided by the fund is an important step and a basis for the full utilization of our aid package worth $24 billion. We intend to quickly hold talks on significant breathing space in terms of debt repayments. The G-7 countries are doing everything to ensure that the promised export credits are provided. In the future they will offer comprehensive technical aid of a more practical nature in the matter of establishing a market economy.

We support private investment specifically destined for the oil and gas industry. The Russian side needs to create the necessary guidline conditions for this without delay. We will provide Russia with the conditions which will facilitate its exports in the future.

Being convinced that private enterprises play a central role in the creation of the structures of a market economy, we call upon enterprises, banks, the economy, and industrial unions to help the development of partnership between entrepreneurs or mediate in this matter. Help on the spot could be given by means of the exchange of workers and by sending managers. Even a few actions of this kind, provided that there is broad international participation in them, will make it possible to create a network of market economy structures. We will cooperate comprehensively in research into outer space, in conversion of military production, on the safety of nuclear reactors, in power engineering, and in the protection of the environment. On the initiative of the "G-7," an international program of action will be implemented for the purpose of the stage-by-stage enhancement of safety of the atomic power stations of the Soviet model. This also includes the mobilization of financial funds.

Finally, we advocate the creation of a consultative group, as part of which the Russian Government, the "Seven," and the other countries and international organizations involved would identify problems and map out specific measures for their joint solution.

The accords reached today on measures directed at deepening cooperation are designed, at the same time, to support President Yeltsin's policy, which is aimed at making the process of reforms irreversible and creating a new Russia, developing on the basis of democracy, the principles of a law-governed state, and respect for civil and human rights.

In addition, the significance of our cooperation with Russia goes outside the framework of Europe overall. We know that peace can be preserved in the long term only if it proves possible to improve and stabilize the economic, social, and political conditions in the eastern part of the continent. We, the countries participating in the summit meeting, have highly appraised the policy pursued by President Yeltsin in the international arena. We have welcomed the fact that Russia is declaring its adherence to its obligations under the treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms control signed by the former Soviet Union and is even prepared to go further. I recall, in particular, the recent U.S.-Russian accord in the field of strategic nuclear weapons.

We have also unambiguously welcomed the fact that Russia is constructively cooperating in the matter of resolving current conflicts in Europe and beyond its boundaries, in the framework of the United Nations and the CSCE.

Finally, we called on President Yeltsin to continue his policy of dialogue and to support the balance of interests with the other new states of the former Soviet Union, giving special attention to the armed forces of Russia deployed outside Russia's boundaries. Not last, we stressed the special significance of our cooperation with Russia in the field of the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their carriers, and also the technology of their manufacture.

We are prepared to provide aid in order that scientists from Russia and other states of the former Soviet Union may have a future in their own country, engaged in peaceful research. The first important step on this road is the creation of international science and technology centers in Moscow and Kiev. Finally, we reached agreement on close cooperation on the question of the export of conventional weapons in order to harmonize control of their export.

In conclusion, I state that Munich has sent out a signal of hope, a signal addressed primarily to all people in Eastern Europe. After the end of the East-West confrontation, we now have a chance to achieve the creation in Europe of a just and lasting order of peace. The chances of this are greater than ever today. We are determined to make use of this opportunity together.

In his introductory statement, Boris Yeltsin said: Esteemed Mr. Helmut Kohl, ladies and gentlemen, people of Germany, inhabitants of Bavaria, people of Munich: First, I want to express gratitude for organizing this genuinely unprecedented and historic meeting between the heads of the seven leading industrial countries of the world and Russia.

Of course, this is the first time I have attended such a meeting. However, I must first note that I think to a large extent it is due to the influence of the chairman, Helmut Kohl, that the atmosphere was one of extreme sincerity, good intentions, mutual respect, with respect for each other's position and for the desire to resolve the problems facing Russia, in particular.

Russia has entered a new path, the path of democratization, the path of a law-based state, of protecting the rights and liberties of the citizens in accordance with international standards, on the path of reform and a market economy.

Russia is unique and the reform is unique. That is why typical standards of smooth transition to a market economy which have already taken shape cannot be fully applied to Russia. That is why our dialogue or discussion with the IMF has been a little bit late. I can now say with satisfaction that this dialogue has already yielded some results, some practical steps. From now on, it will all be a matter of technique, as they say, I mean the development of issues of granting credits aimed at backing up reforms in Russia.

Russia has embarked upon the path of reforms for good. If someone wants to believe certain mass media when they say that a putsch or a revenge of the past by nationalist-communists are possible in Russia, I must tell you: No, there is no real basis for such a putsch in Russia. Therefore, Russia will steadily follow this path, the path of a reformed market economy, a reformed political system. Russia will return to the world community. Russia will return to Europe, which it has been part of for 1,000 years.

I am satisfied with the results of our conversation. There were a lot of questions as well as proposals and statements. All the participants spoke, some more than once. Mr. Federal Chancellor has touched upon the main issues. I want to especially stress that it was said that there would be the same attitude to Russia as to any other country, to any other 7, 10, or 20—it doesn't matter. The restrictions of the market which still existed and which remained from the old communist time—and communism has been done with once and forever, I am convinced of this—now these restrictions have been either partially lifted or are being lifted now after today's accord. Relations between us will really be like between partners, on the basis of mutual benefit, respect, cooperation, and friendship. This is important.

I would like to stress once again that Germany understands, perhaps better than any other G-7 country, how difficult it is for Russia and how difficult it is now for Russian inhabitants to go along this path of reforms. We pay a very high price for changing from communism and totalitarism to a civilized path of social development. Why does Germany understand this better than other countries? Germany is dealing with new lands today which used to be called the GDR. Germany has to invest a lot of money in them today in order to somehow make the level of life even.

Russia finds itself now in a very similar position, perhaps even a worse one. That is why the federal chancellor and other G-7 leaders understand well that Russia will not be able to survive without any support during this period. If the reform suddenly falls through—but I am convinced that it will be seen through to the end in any case—it would affect the whole world community, including Germany. The price to be paid then would be too high. One will have to pay tenfold the amounts which are now being invested in democratization and in the processes that are now taking shape in Russia and in the market reform.

I am satisfied with the specific issues that were discussed. I think that I will be able to clarify them further in my replies to your questions.

Once again, I would like to thank Mr. Helmut Kohl and all those who participated in and prepared this very important meeting for excellent organization and hospitality. Thank you.

Then correspondents were invited to ask questions:

[Reporter] Mr. President, in your opinion, how much time will be necessary to implement the economic reforms in Russia?

[Yeltsin] I would like all of the areas of the reform to have become irreversible when my term as president ends in 1996.

[Reporter] As is known, the IMF put forward certain conditions which must be fulfilled in order to receive the loans. In your view, to what degree can these conditions be fulfilled? You also spoke about the impossibility of a repetition of the putsch, but former representatives of the party-state nomenklatura are now talking about the possibility of its being repeated, about the possibility of establishing a dictatorship. They are even giving a timescale of two to three months. On what are such assertions based?

[Yeltsin] As regards the foreign debt, the IMF has imposed absolutely no conditions on us. This issue is not being resolved by the IMF; it is being resolved at the talks with the Paris and London Clubs. Of course, the benevolent attitude of the heads of the G-7 states toward the rescheduling of the payment of the foreign debt is important. A benevolent attitude to this and support were expressed today. This gives grounds to hope that the specific talks with the Paris and London Clubs on the timeframe for the rescheduling will be more propitious.

Regarding what has been said by a number of people in the CIS countries of the former Union, including Russia, they are trying to frighten people by saying not only that there is going to be a putsch, but also that the government is about to resign. We know what sort of people they are. They are fragments of the past. Such people have existed, still exist, and will continue to exist. I consider it a great achievemnt of Russian democracy that after last year's August putsch we did not persecute the putschists. Yes, criminal proceedings have been instituted against the members of the State Committee for the State of Emergency. The investigation is nearly complete. It seems that around autumn there will be a trial. With regard to all the ordinary communists, there is no persecution. I see this as being greatly to the credit of Russian democracy.

Unlike the Bolsheviks in 1917 and 1918, we did not respond with vengeance from our side. Of course, there are still some party structures or, to be more precise, individuals who do not agree with the reform, who want revenge, and who are waving red flags. Recently, for example, I spoke on KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA's "hotline" and was asked a lot of questions such as: Why are you not leading us toward communism? In response to this I say that we are evidently going along different paths. You can go toward communism if you wish, but we are not going that way.

Therefore, such people do exist, but today it is impossible to overthrow the president in a "constitutional" way. There are only three ways which are laid down. The first is if the president himself resigns. I am not going to resign. The second is if the president becomes so ill that he cannot lead, and this must be confirmed by a special medical commission. I am in good health and I still have enough strength for a few years. The third thing is if the president commits a crime. I was well brought up so this will not happen.

With regard to the government, I have supported and I still support the Gaydar government, and I will stick by it. In some countries, during the transition from a planned economy to a market economy there have been three, four, or five governments. I do not want that to happen. I want the young, strong, and competent government which began the reforms to see them through to the end.

[Reporter] Mr. Kohl, how do you see the form of CIS representatives' participation in G-7 meetings in the future?

[Kohl] We received Boris Yeltsin as our partner this year. The situation was different last year when Mikhail Gorbachev was present at the G-7 meeting. We talked to Yeltsin openly, as equals. He was not a visitor in the sense that he was not "a poor relative visiting a rich one." This is not true at all. This is not our stand. Our stand is that Russia plays an important role in Europe and in the world, or, as was said today, Russia has returned to Europe. I think that at the next G-7 meeting, which will take place in Japan, a coordinated formula for Russia's participation will be found.

[Reporter] Did you touch upon the issue of Eric Honecker's fate and of the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltics during your talks in Munich?

[Yeltsin] As for the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic countries, yes, this issue was discussed today. I made our position very clear. Russia was not the one to send the troops there. Those are the troops of the former Soviet Union which have been and are stationed there, but which have been transferred to Russian jurisdiction because they cannot just belong to no one. They ought to fall under someone's jurisdiction so that they are financed accordingly.

The second and most important thing is that we have made a political decision on withdrawing all the troops.

The third point is that the decision has been made not to reinforce the divisions deployed in the three Baltic republics with new conscripts. The period of service is two years; therefore, you understand, in a year or two there will be no ordinary soldiers there.

The fourth point is that we have agreed with the Baltic leaders on the schedule for withdrawal of the troops in the second half of this year and 1993. We will act in accordance with this schedule. The problems are purely technical, such as where to withdraw them and where to build accommodations, barracks, and military settlements. In other words, we need to resolve all the social problems. Aid on the side of the Baltic states in building accommodations on Russian territory was under discussion, but, unfortunately, the economic situation in the Baltic states is also very complicated and this is not possible. We understand this. They also have to understand us. We cannot simply withdraw 100,000 soldiers to an open field. In this case they will simply be our enemies. There should be a civilized method of withdrawal.

Our affairs with Germany are similar. We have signed a schedule for withdrawal. Every month in telephone conversations with the federal chancellor we say that we do not have claims on each other in this respect. Every month the schedule of withdrawal is fulfilled. We will do the same with regard to the troops in the Baltics.

[Reporter] Mr. President, what help do you expect from the G-7 for reimmigration into Russia from the Baltic states?

[Yeltsin] In the first place, this question was not discussed. I think that there is no need for any help apart from political support for this process.

[Reporter] What measures does the Russian Government intend to take in the near future to attract private capital?

[Yeltsin] Naturally, the 1 billion or 24 billion which will come in via the International Monetary Fund will not save the situation in Russia. Direct investment by private capital from all countries will mean hundreds of thousands of millions of dollars, which could considerably alleviate carrying out our reforms.

On 1 July we adopted a third package of legislative acts and decrees to liberalize foreign economic activity and to give certain guarantees for private investors. Today we asked the leaders of the seven countries to review their own possibilities for providing private investments with insurance against political risk in Russia.

I think that the caution that still exists with regard to large-scale private investment is there because the International Monetary Fund has not given the go-ahead. As soon as the documents signed on 5 July by Gaydar and Mr. Camdessus become known, the gates will immediately open up and, under the protection of the IMF, there will be a powerful flow of private investment into Russia, because this is a unique market. There are no more markets like the Russian market in the world. If a private company does not set up its stall this year or next year, by 1994, it will have missed its chance in Russia.

[Reporter] In Munich did you ask for a new postponement, for a moratorium on debt payments? What answer did you receive?

[Yeltsin] I have already answered a similar question. First, a moratorium is the completely wrong terminology in terms of the rescheduling of foreign debts. This is not underground testing of nuclear weapons where a moratorium is announced for a year. It is rescheduling. We cannot and do not have the right to demand this, since the G-7 heads cannot specifically decide this question themselves. There are the international institutions of the Paris and London Clubs, which Russia must hold talks with in order to agree on the rescheduling of the former Union's foreign debt payments on behalf of all the CIS states. I have been given the right to speak on behalf of the states. The figure is $70.7 billion. Taking into account the benevolent and positive attitude of the heads of the G-7 countries toward this, I think that our talks with the Paris and London Clubs will be successful.

[Reporter] Boris Nikolayevich, this is not your first visit to Germany. It seems that you have formed good relations with Chancellor Kohl. Were you able to use the present meeting in Munich to strengthen these relations and have you been able to build such human bridges with the other G-7 leaders?

[Yeltsin] I must say that Helmut Kohl and I had a conversation this morning during which we summed up the results of what has been done since the last visit. It must be said that the level of support by Germany for the reforms in Russia is the highest of all seven states which were in session here today. This must be noted. Today Federal Chancellor Kohl confirmed that this level will continue to be observed. This is very important for us.

Apart from that, we have marked out a number of specific ways, steps, and programs on which we will act in mutually advantageous conditions. Yes, gradually we are forming personal, good, confiding relations which are leading us to meet not simply once a year, but also to speak often on the phone. Personal contacts have also formed with George Bush, Brian Mulroney, John Major, and Francois Mitterand, as well as Mr. Kohl. It is awkward for me to talk about this in such an auditorium, but when we are in a small circle we call each other by our first names. This speaks volumes. For the time being there are no personal contacts with the new Italian prime minister or with the Japanese prime minister. I think that this a question for the coming months, since in the middle of September there will be an official visit to Japan.

[Reporter] If Russia comes out in favor of Germany being given a place on the Security Council, will Germany come out in favor of Russia joining the G-7?

[Yeltsin] I do not think that this is about back scratching. I did not ask for us to be included in G-8 or G-7 plus one. This is a question for the seven states. This institution has already been formed. It is their right to decide. I know that, for example, George Bush has made such a proposal. Evidently this question was discussed without me. Since I have been told nothing about the decision, this means that the decision has been made that the G-7 will continue to exist in its present condition. This does not mean that Russia's role will be reduced because of this. Russia is and will be a great power, and will have influence on both the processes in Europe and the processes in the whole world.

[Reporter] Are you completely satisfied with the program of aid to Russia which the G-7 is offering in Munich or were you counting on something bigger?

[Yeltsin] We spoke about the fact that for the time being the market is not fully open for Russia. We could export our scientific advanced technology and cooperate in conquering space, aerospace programs, and satellite launches. We could cooperate in supplying various materials, equipment, and so on. Russia is rich in talented people, land, and useful minerals; therefore, Russia has great export possibilities. The proposal expressed today and supported by all relates to Russia as an equal without any discrimination or limits in trade, on offering it market and most favored nation status, which Russia has already done for all the states. This suits us. Was I expecting more or less? I was not expecting more; I did not want less.

[Reporter] Mr. Yeltsin, the G-7 said today that it is possible to make the 24 billion in credit accessible. What conditions are being set in this connection?

[Yeltsin] You don't mind if you hear the answer from Russian Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar, and at the same time his thoughts in this regard, do you?

[Gaydar] From the very beginning the packet of aid for Russia has not been made conditional upon anything. In our conversations and discussions with the leading Western states today, we did not talk about the West setting up conditions under which it would provide backing for us. We talked about making this program effective, about making sure that this money is really used to make the Russian economy more healthy and not just uselessly wasted on patching present holes. We jointly worked on this program and did not haggle with each other over what we must do in order to achieve these credits. On the whole, we have now managed to form a program which in our joint view is a serious, realistic, and responsible program making it possible for Russia to make headway down the path of reforms and ensuring macroeconomic stability. Basically, this opens up the path for using this money effectively.

Kozyrev Meets Germany's Kinkel

LD0907014692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2128 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents]

[Text] Munich, 9 Jul—On 8 July Russian Foreign Minister A.V. Kozyrev and German Foreign Minister K. Kinkel held a conversation within the framework of meeting of the G-7 heads of state and government being held in Munich.

On the threshold of the CSCE summit in Helsinki the ministers discussed in detail, questions of European construction, with an emphasis on the search for the most rational approaches to settling existing conflict situations like those in Nagorno-Karabakh and the Dniester region and preventing the outbreak of new ones. They noted that it is essential to build the peacemaking potential of the CSCE in combination with the potential and material resources of other European and international structures. In this context Kozyrev explained the aims and purpose of the initiative of Yeltsin and Kravchuk regarding the convening of an emergency conference of CSCE foreign ministers immediately after Helsinki-2.

In their consideration of Russian-German relations, the ministers paid particular attention to elaborating a program for bilateral contacts and determining their contents both at the federal level and between individual regions of the two countries. An agreement was reached on the visits to Russia by Chancellor H. Kohl and Minister K. Kinkel before the end of the current year and also on further exchanges between the Russian and German foreign ministries.

Kozyrev Meets Italy's Scotti

LD0907014892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2054 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Munich, 9 Jul—In the course of the G-7 meeting of heads of states and governments in Munich, a conversation between the Russian and Italian foreign ministers took place on 8 July. A.V. Kozyrev and V. Scotti discussed the situation in Europe with relation to the forthcoming CSCE summit in Helsinki. The conversation focused on the priority target of elaborating and putting into operation, mechanisms for preventing and regulating conflict situations, as well as reliable guarantees for human rights in the context of inter-European relations in the framework of the CSCE and other international organizations.

An exchange of opinions on bilateral relations with stress on economic cooperation between the two countries also took place. The ministers signed a Russian-Italian agreement in the framework of technical cooperation, in accordance with which financial means are allocated to assist Russian market reforms.

Gaydar on 'Significant Progress'

LD0807165292 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Yegor Gaydar, acting head of the Russian Government, has assessed the atmosphere at the G-7 meeting in Munich as positive in the highest degree. He said in an interview given to an RIA correspondent that the results of the talks will make possible significant progress on the way to opening Western markets to Russian goods. According to him, the specification of the package of financial assistance for Russian reforms by the G-7 and international financial organizations is of great importance.

Gaydar on Results

OW0907113692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1417 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar has described President Boris Yeltsin's talks at the "G Seven" meeting in Munich as "very constructive and useful". He has made this statement upon his return to Moscow from Munich, where he accompanied Mr. Yeltsin.

In a reply to an IF [INTERFAX] correspondent, Mr. Gaydar noted that the negotiations in Munich had undoubtedly brought Russia closer to credits. The "G Seven" saw for itself—Mr. Gaydar continued—that our anti-inflation policy was sufficient to avert a hyperinflation that might kill all the efforts to set up a civilized market. There is every reason to say that the world has received from Munich a signal of understanding that our reforms are serious, complete, and balanced, he stressed.

Mr. Gaydar also revealed that the Western negotiating partners accepted the Russian president's stand over the options to repay the USSR foreign debt. One alternative is to "convert the debt to property". "We let our property for use to cancel the debt"—Mr. Gaydar explained.

He underlined that the entire course of negotiations refuted all kinds of assertions that Russia had been in for "a talk between a wealthy family and a poor relative, begging for money". We constructively discussed a wide range of problems, obviously facing the whole world in the wake of the reforms under way in Russia—said Gaydar. "The pace of change and the risk all of us have to take will inevitably affect life, well-being, and peace in all countries of the world."

In Mr. Gaydar's words, yet another step was taken in Munich to integrate Russia with the industrialized states.

Further on Gaydar Comments

LD0907015492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0043 GMT 9 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Gvritishvili]

[Text] Moscow, 9 Jul—Yegor Gaydar, acting prime minister of the Russian Government, voiced his satisfaction with the results of the meeting with the leaders of G-7 countries which ended in Munich yesterday.

Immediately after returning to Moscow from Germany he told journalists at the airport that conversations with Western partners had been constructive and useful. As a result of the talks "a step toward integrating Russia into the structure of European developed states was made." Gaydar stressed that a wide range of problems faced by many countries in connection with the process of reforms in Russia was discussed in Munich.

Touching upon the accord with the IMF on credits for Russia, which were attained on 5 July, Yegor Gaydar noted that G-7 had brought nearer the time limits for giving these credits. In connection with this he said that the agreement with the IMF is not a result of bargaining but shows the West's understanding of the comprehensive and balanced nature of the reforms which are being implemented in Russia.

Summit Yeilds Funds for Russia

LD0807193992 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1800 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] After his Munich meeting with the heads of the G-7, Russian President Boris Yeltsin is heading for Helsinki to take part in the proceeedings of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. As a result of Yeltsin's talks in Munich, before the end of the year Russia will receive 6 billion dollars for the ruble stabilizaton fund and 700 million dollars for the modernization of nuclear power stations.

Yeltsin Arrives For CSCE Summit, Notes G-7

LD0807223592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2158 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov, Valeriy Loskutov, and Aleksandr Surikov]

[Text] Helsinki, 9 Jul—Russian President Boris Yeltsin arrived in the Finnish capital tonight. He heads the Russian delegation at the meeting of the heads of state and government of the CSCE member-states, which opens here today.

Replying to correspondents questions at the aircraft steps, the president said that he is satisfied with the results of conversations with G-7 leaders in Munich. "The results, he noted, are no more or less than I expected".

Speaking about Russia's position regarding the dates for the withdrawal of its troops from the Baltic countries, he pointed out that the political decision had been made. However, "it is impossible this year." "The issue is merely a technical one; it is necessary to have housing and barracks. In the near future we will sign a timetable for the withdrawal, which involves about 100,000 men. The most important thing is that we will not be reinforcing the divisions stationed there with new recruits."

Characterizing the tasks of Helsinki-2, Boris Yeltsin said: "It is a major international event connected not just with Europe's security; it is a fresh step forward in cooperation among all countries." He noted the importance of the adoption of a specific declaration on the outcome of the forum, and expressed the hope that such a document would be signed by the leaders of the states.

Summit Opens

LD0907092492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0855 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] Helsinki July 9 TASS—Heads of state and government of member countries of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe meet in Helsinki on Thursday [9 July] for a two-day forum to discuss ways of ensuring peace and accord in a new international situation. The forum is attended by 51 leaders, including Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

It is the first time since the process started that such a large number of participants will gather at the negotiating table.

At the CSCE first "summit" in Helsinki, held 17 years ago in July 1975, East and West were opponents. East European countries were represented by general secretaries of Communist parties. Today delegations from these countries are led by democratically-elected presidents.

The iron curtain dividing Europe into two camps has been pulled down and real cuts were made in armaments—all this promises a favourable start to the current Helsinki meeting. The current positive prerequisites are especially important because the forum is expected to take fundamental decisions, to consider a whole package of documents. Their main purpose is to adapt the idea of general European security to concrete realities and wide possibilities of the new epoch that set in after the cold war.

Meetings at the "Messukeskus" conference centre will hardly be simple. All sides are agreed on positive changes, but discussions will centre on seeking out pragmatic answers to the problems that worry Europeans today.

The epoch that replaced the period of inter-bloc confrontation, brought along with new possibilities new challenges to the Euro-Atlantic community. Three and a half months, taken up by preparations for the meeting, were largely spent on attempts to unblock conflicts in newly-established states. This range of issues becomes the most complicated in the general European process.

Yugoslavia, where contradictions acquired fierce character, will be absent from the "Messukeskus" hall. Their settlement is the top priority in Europe today. The situation is equally complicated in the former Soviet Union and other East European countries. In this context, the authoritative forum of European cooperation is to conceive such structures and instruments that would effectively stem crises at the early stage and rapidly restore peace. It is also necessary to define forms and mechanisms of interaction between the CSCE and other European institutions.

The forum will also deal with difficult economic problems. Transition to civilised market relations in new democracies that arose on the European continent after the collapse of authoritarian regimes is proceeding with difficulty. Decisions of the Helsinki meeting on European cooperation may promote stabilisation of nascent economic systems, speed up their integration into global business partnership as equal members.

The Helsinki forum is called upon to reaffirm the supremacy of law. Not only in relations between states, but also in relations between state and individual. This is all the more important today when citizenship for large groups of the population living on the territory of new countries is called to question.

There can be only one road to settlement of these problems in the CSCE framework—seeking accord, taking account of the interests of all interested parties and, naturally, strict compliance with the decisions taken. Fundamental documents of Helsinki-2 must be adopted in this atmosphere of consensus.

The forum is hard pressed for time. During two days each member country will have to set out its position. The Russian president is expected to address the forum on the second day.

Working languages of the forum are English, Spanish, Italian, German, Russian and French. It will be covered by 40 major TV companies and a total of 2,000 journalists.

Yeltsin Meets With Georgian, Polish Leaders

LD0907120492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Excerpts] Immediately after the Munich meeting ended, the Russian president left for Helsinki, where a meeting of heads of the states and governments of the CSCE member states has now opened. Incidentally, leaders of the former USSR's republics are also taking part in it. Our special correspondent Vladimir Baburin reports from the Finnish capital.

[Baburin] Today's sitting was chaired by Nursultan Nazarbayev, the Kazakh president. [passage omitted] This morning Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin met Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the State Council of the Republic of Georgia, in the framework of today's session. At the meeting they confirmed that the Dagomys agreements are being successfully fulfilled. The participants were pleased with what has been done since the Dagomys and Istanbul meetings. Boris Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze intend to keep in touch more often. They intend to have personal meetings and speak on the telephone. A broad comprehensive agreement is expected to be signed between the two countries in the near future.

Boris Yeltsin has also met Polish President Lech Walesa today. Here is an updated report. As journalists were told by Sergey Yastrzhembskiy, Foreign Ministry spokesman, the heads of the governments of the CSCE countries will discuss the situation in the CIS hotspots, in particular, in the Dniester region. This initiative was put forward by the Russian and the Ukrainian presidents even before the Helsinki meeting, and a special commission is now addressing this issue.

ITAR-TASS: Human Rights Group Condemns Romania

LD0807073192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0711 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Kuznetsov]

[Text] New York July 8 TASS—The International Human Rights Society has accused Romania of supporting the Moldovan extremists. The society, whose activists visited Moldova and the Dniester region in April, issued a statement on Tuesday [7 July] saying the society is in possession of sufficient evidence of Romania's full-scale support of Moldova's military efforts against the Dniester region. Romania is providing Moldovan troops with arms, munitions and armored vehicles, the statement says. Romania is assisting Moldova to pursue the policy of "Romanisation" of Moldovans, Russians and Ukrainians inhabiting the Dniester region. There is evidence Moldovan troops are being trained in Romania and use the assistance of Romania's military experts, the statement added.

The organisation has prepared a vast report on the violations and will submit it to the United Nations, organisation's officials told TASS. The Dniester region has exactly the same rights for self-determination as Moldova received in the result of the disintegration of the Soviet Union, U.S. campaigners said and added that Moldova is suppressing these rights.

Reports of Foreign Aircraft Downings Denied

PM0707143392 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jul 92 p 1

[A. Khokhlov report: "Canard Shot Down"]

[Text] Many CIS newspapers have made much in recent days of the story of a Romanian plane shot down in Ukrainian air space. Its wreckage "fell" in the vicinity of several population centers. But...it has not been possible to locate it so far.

As we were informed at the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, at 1859 hours, 25 June, a Romanian AN-24 plane flew into the skies above Ukraine from the direction of Moldova. Three minutes later an interceptor took off from Artsyz airfield. On approaching the Romanian aircraft it waggled its wings—the signal for "follow me." The AN-24 followed and at 1918 hours safely left for its native Romania.

No Moldovan or Romanian planes have been downed by the dreadful 14th Army either. Perhaps the Russian military men would like to "pepper" the Moldovan Air Force Mig-29's which dropped bombs in the immediate vicinity of their barracks, but no, they have not fired and, naturally, have downed nothing, the Russian Defense Ministry Press Center reports.

Military

Chief of Staff Outlines Command Structure

PM0707104392 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jul 92 pp 1, 2

[Article by Colonel General V. Samsonov, chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces General Staff: "A Collective Security System Is an Objective Necessity"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] A conference of heads of military delegations of the CIS member countries is being held today in Moscow. It comes ahead of the session of the Commonwealth Council of Heads of State planned for 6 July, which will examine, among others, a package of military questions. The Defense Ministers Council and the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command are submitting the drafts of six documents to the upcoming meeting. These have been prepared on the basis of approaches elaborated in the High Command toward organizing within the Commonwealth the collective security system discussed in the following article submitted to our editorial office by the chief of staff of the CIS Joint Armed Forces.

The disappearance of the USSR from the political map of the world has fundamentally changed the military-political and military-strategic situation throughout the world. There have been truly global political changes whose significance cannot be exaggerated. Political leaders and the peoples of East and West have found within themselves the determination to end the "cold war," have gotten rid of the "enemy image" in relations with each other, and have stopped nuclear brinkmanship. Today we are entitled to say that the likelihood of the unleashing of a world nuclear war or large-scale conflict using conventional weapons is minimal.

But does all this mean that the question of military danger has been removed from the agenda? Clearly not. We must realistically grasp that the principles of relations between states that have prevailed throughout mankind's history remain mostly unchanged. As 100 and 200 years ago, they are based on certain principles—a state's strength ensures that it enjoys complete independence and freedom of development along whatever path it believes necessary. After all, even Karamzin wrote in the "History of the Russian State": "There is no freedom where there is not the strength to defend it..."

However, within the confines of the Union, which only yesterday was united and in general reliably provided guarantees of the security of the peoples united within it, different approaches on the part of the Commonwealth subjects toward resolving this issue both for each individual state and for the CIS as a whole have now emerged. As a result a process of the weakening of the security of the entire Commonwealth and individual sovereign republics has begun to develop. Furthermore, it should be borne in mind that in the military-political situation now prevailing in the world it has become extremely difficult to determine where and when potential threatening factors may develop into a real crisis or armed conflict. Therefore each state's need to have armed forces appropriate to the prevailing conditions and reliable and militarily strong allies must be regarded as an objective necessity.

From the first days of the Commonwealth's existence its member states have paid the closest attention to the military sphere, displaying a desire to pool efforts in order to ensure the security of the CIS and to create a reliable collective defense system and organ of collective leadership ensuring the joint solution of problems of the independent's states military organizational development, including unified [yedinyy] control over nuclear weapons. The decisions adopted in March at the Kiev meeting of Commonwealth heads of state—the decision on the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command and the statute on it—were the result of this.

Today the main, key document on Commonwealth defense questions is the Treaty on Collective Security, which envisages the possibility of coordinated joint actions with a view to repelling aggression against any member state. It was signed by Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The treaty is open to all interested countries, and the important point is not that as yet it has six members. The important point is that the Commonwealth states have taken the first and probably most complex step toward creating an effective military-political structure capable of being a guarantee of security for the successful political and economic development of the subjects that form the CIS.

The Treaty on Collective Security is the basis for forming a defense alliance. It will make it possible to integrate the efforts of the Commonwealth states and to make maximum use of the remaining elements of the former USSR's defensive system. Its highest organ will be a Collective Security Council consisting of the heads of the member states and the commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces. This organ will be empowered to make decisions on using the Armed Forces to repel aggression against any party to the treaty. The Joint Armed Forces High Command is to coordinate and implement agreed activity by the Commonwealth states within the framework of the treaty.

As practice shows, radical, qualitative transformations are effective only when they are underpinned by a proper foundation. With regard to the defense sphere in the Commonwealth states, this means above all the elaboration of a concept of collective security and CIS military doctrine. When it comes to the concept, it can already be stated that the CIS security system must function in accordance with UN principles, and its military component must be based on both national armed forces and Joint Armed Forces and retain a unified nuclear potential. The need to elaborate a Commonwealth military doctrine is dictated both by the necessity of officially proclaiming the aims and tasks of the treaty's signatory states in the sphere of military organizational development and the use of the Joint Armed Forces and by experience of the activity of military-political alliances. Commonwealth military doctrine must be defensive. The doctrine will be based on a concept for preventing war based on the following principles: never unleashing wars, not being the first to use nuclear weapons, not having territorial claims against anyone, and not regarding anyone as an enemy.

These most important tenets are expressed most clearly in the process of military organizational development and primarily in implementing the principle of defense sufficiency. Here we proceed from the premise that the likelihood of the emergence of world war has been reduced to a minimum, and the threat of local conflicts is coming to the fore.

As the criterion of defense sufficiency for troop (forces) groupings in a state of constant readiness it is proposed to take the effective combat and numerical strength deployed in a particular region which, with reinforcement by mobile forces and strategic regroupings, will ensure the repulse of aggression or the localization and ending of armed conflict on terms meeting the national interests of the Commonwealth states.

How are the structure of the Joint Armed Forces and their command and control system envisioned? Two main components are formed within the Joint Armed Forces structure—Strategic Forces and General-Purpose Forces.

The Strategic Forces are intended to resolve tasks in the interests of the entire Commonwealth and primarily to deter attack from outside, to warn of the start of such an attack, and to ensure the inevitability of retaliatory action. These forces include large strategic formations, combined units, and units of the Strategic Rocket Forces, the Air Force, the Navy, the Air Defense Forces, and Space Systems resolving strategic tasks, and also strategic and operational reconnaissance forces and systems and nuclear-technical units.

The General-Purpose Forces include large strategic formations, combined units, institutions, military educational establishments, and other troop formations and military facilities not forming part of the Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces Strategic Forces, and also national armed forces of the member states placed, with their consent, under the operational control of the Joint Armed Forces High Command.

The following Joint Armed Forces command and control organs—political and military—have been created for the transitional period. The Commonwealth's highest political organs on defense questions are the Council of Heads of State, the Council of Heads of Government, and the Defense Ministers Council. The Council of Heads of State elaborates and implements military policy, realizes (elaborates) the concept of collective security, adopts the Commonwealth's military doctrine and nuclear strategy, and resolves other questions of military organizational development. The Council of Heads of Government coordinates military-economic activity, and the Defense Ministers Council of the member states resolves questions of military organizational development. The CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command has been set up to implement the decisions that are adopted.

I will dwell in more detail on the tasks and structure of the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command. In general I see three groups of tasks which the High Command will focus its efforts on solving. First, there is ensuring reliable, centralized command and unified control over the Strategic Forces on the territories of the independent states, improving their structures in conditions of the operation of the Treaty on the Reduction of Strategic Offensive Arms, and maintaining them at the necessary and sufficient level in the interests of the entire Commonwealth.

The second, no less important task is to react promptly to the threat of local conflicts along the outside borders of the Commonwealth in order to avert them. The harmonization and coordination of operational planning, the creation of the necessary infrastructure, and the operational preparation of theaters of operation in the common military-strategic space accord with the interests of all the treaty's signatory states.

A task of the High Command that must be mentioned is comprehensive analysis of the world military-political situation and the coordination of the the efforts of Commonwealth states to prevent war and elaborate proposals and recommendations for the Collective Security Council. Finally, the High Command must be an organ capable of helping the Commonwealth independent states in the planned, civilized formation of national armies.

I must dwell separately on the problem of elaborating the Commonwealth's nuclear strategy. Since nuclear weapons, as a most important deterrent, are under the direct command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command, I believe that one of its most important tasks must be to elaborate proposals for the Commonwealth's nuclear strategy. A Nuclear Planning Committee is being set up under the CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command in order to elaborate these proposals. It includes the commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, the chief of staff of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, the commander of the Strategic Forces, and the defense ministers of the Commonwealth states on whose territory nuclear weapons are stationed, and also of the states that have signed the Treaty on Collective Security.

The heart of any military organism is the staff. The High Command is no exception. Its main working organ will be the Joint Armed Forces Staff. As its chief, I find it nice to note that a mature collective capable of resolving the most complex tasks is already taking shape. The CIS Joint Armed Forces Staff includes the following directorates: operational—the main planning organ—and organizational-mobilization. The Joint Armed Forces Staff also includes a number of separate sectors [napravleniye]: information and intelligence, communications and automated command and control systems, operational rear services and transportation. In order to ensure coordinated action and the collegial solution of the most important operational, mobilization, and other questions concerning the functions of the Joint Armed Forces Staff, it is planned to set up a Chiefs of Staff Committee within its structure.

In addition, it is planned to create within the High Command structure a number of committees that will ensure the planned operational, combat, and mobilization training of the Joint Armed Forces, the implementation of a coordinated military technical policy, timely and comprehensive logistical support of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, and the implementation of effective legal and social protection for servicemen. Their titles are as follows: Joint Armed Forces Training Committee, Military Technical Committee, Rear Services Committee, and Committee for Work With Personnel.

I would also like to note that in its practical work the CIS Joint Armed Forces Staff must take into account the interests of all the Commonwealth states and implement the constant closest collaboration with the defense ministers of the sovereign republics. To this end we are planning to include in the Joint Armed Forces Staff structure permanent representatives from the Commonwealth states vested with the powers of deputy chief of staff of the CIS Joint Armed Forces. In order to support the work of the Defense Ministers Council, hold talks, help the states prepare normative acts on military questions, provide legal consultations, and carry out the housekeeping [khozyaystvennyy] activity of the High Command, it is proposed to have an Administration of Affairs.

Of course, the above is merely one possible structure of the High Command's management organs. It may change according to the situation and tasks.

There are a few days to go before 6 July, when the heads of state will assemble again for a working meeting. However, without waiting for further decisions and full staffing levels, the High Command has vigorously gotten down to work. The legal basis is being prepared, the necessary material is being accumulated, operational and other documents are being developed, communications are being set up with the defense ministries (defense committees) of the countries that signed the Treaty on Collective Security, and other questions are being resolved. In other words, the High Command is continuing to act in its new capacity, with its new functions and tasks.

Shaposhnikov Holds News Conference 8 Jul

LD0807140892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The CIS states are soon to set up their own special armed forces to preserve peace both within the Commonwealth and on its external borders. The signing of the agreement to this effect is expected in Tashkent on 16 July.

The 47-year-old Russian Colonel General Boris Pyankov will lead our blue helmets. In the first instance, these forces will evidently be used in the Dniester region. The second region where they will probably be used is the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. This was reported at a news conference today by Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, Commander in Chief of the Joint Armed Forces.

Summing up the results of the sitting of the council of CIS heads of state, Shaposhnikov noted that the level of mutual understanding reached in the military sphere is the highest it has been throughout the whole period of the Commonwealth's existence. However, in reality this only means that it has been decided to put the most acute issues temporarily to one side.

The military are not able to reach a definitive agreement on the fate of nuclear missiles and prefer to wait for the special talks between the presidents of Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Byelarus. For the time being they have agreed only that new recruits to the strategic forces service will all swear an identical oath.

Outlines Main Role of Armed Forces

LD0807132192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1244 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, July 8 TASS—The basic functions of the main command of the CIS Armed Forces will include single control and centralised management of strategic nuclear arms, coordination of military doctrines and military reforms of CIS countries, settling of armed conflicts both inside the Commonwealth on along its borders. A special structure headed by deputy CIS Commander-in-Chief Boris Pyankov will be in charge of fulfilling the latter task, Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, the CIS commander-in-chief, said at a press conference on Wednesday [8 July].

Foreign and defence ministers of the Commonwealth will meet in Minsk on July 16 to define the functioning and use of CIS peace-keeping forces, he added.

Heads of state of the Commonwealth ruled that a provision for the main command should be worked out in two months, he stressed, adding 300 military and 100 civilians will be employed there.

The CIS commander-in-chief is subordinated to the Council of Heads of State and runs the Council of Defence Ministers which will meet once in two-three months, Shaposhnikov said.

The Council of Defence Ministers will have a committee on coordinating nuclear strategy and a secretariat. The strategic forces command will unite strategic missile forces, air and sea- based strategic forces, space defence, the management in charge of nuclear weapons, and strategic intelligence.

Chiefs of staff of CIS Armies will periodically meet at the CIS headquarters, committees on technical policy, logistics support, personnel, and others will be also created. Deputies chief of staff, representing the interests of all CIS members, will permanently work in general headquarters. Commanders of various arms of Russian Armed Forces will become deputies of the CIS commander-in-chief as over 80 per cent of Air Force, Navy and Air- Defence infrastructure belong to Russia, Shaposhnikov said, adding the proposal was approved by heads of state.

The main command will "live long" as strategic nuclear forces are still deployed in four former Soviet Republics, the commander-in- chief said.

Shaposhnikov also added that heads of states agreed to transform the coordinating council of officers' assemblies into a committee on the rights of the military which will be included into the structure of the main command. The committee will be headed by Aleksandr Mochaykin.

The discussion on strategic forces at the latest CIS summit was conducted with due account of Lisbon agreements, which envisage that only Russia remains a nuclear state out of all former Soviet Republics. However, the Ukrainian position on the issue became a stumbling block for the talks. Ukraine ruled that personnel of foreign armies cannot be stationed on its territory. It also took over strategic units and insists on its right for administrative control over strategic forces deployed on its territory.

The issue is to be decided by heads of state of Russia, Ukraine, Byelarus and Kazakhstan. "I believe Ukraine at present is capable, is ready to move in this direction. If there is no movement Ukraine will have to bid farewell to nuclear arms before 1994" as envisaged by Minsk Agreements, Shaposhnikov said.

Discusses Military Coordination

LD0807152592 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1313 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] General Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the Commonwealth Joint Forces, held a news conference today in Moscow on the results of the work of Council of CIS Defense Ministers and the CIS heads of state. Our correspondent Ivan Akkurativ has the details.

[Akkuratov] According to General Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS joint forces, the agreement on BMEW [ballistic missile early warning] systems and means of space surveillance elicited the most interest. The difficulties with this agreement were that previously this system was built within the framework of one state. Now several countries of the Commonwealth possess some of its components. According to the commander in chief of the CIS joint forces, a decision was found that satisfied all parties.

The agreement on the activity of the High Command of the CIS joint forces was another important point. Now this structure represents the interests of all states, rather than just those of Russia, something that Shaposhnikov had been previously accused of on many occasions. The staff of the High Command will be about 300 people.

An agreement in principle on the coordination of activities to define mmilitary doctrines between the Commonwealth countries was also reached. A decision was also made on the council of collective security. After a suggestion by Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev, the post of secretary general of the security council is going to be introduced, similar to that of NATO. His duties will include political consultations and the coordination of positions taken by the CIS countries on military questions.

There were heated debates on the question of deputy commander in chief of the CIS joint forces according to types of armed forces. But having taken into consideration the fact that up to 80 percent of the Air Force, Air Defense Forces, and the Navy are deployed on Russian territory, a decision was made that the commanders of these types of Russian armed forces will concurrently become deputy commanders in chief of the CIS joint forces. Talking about the structure of the High Command of the joint armed forces, General Shaposhnikov described its tasks as follows.

[Begin Shaposhnikov recording] This structure is not made to fit some or other chief or individual, but rather to fit the tasks that will have to be performed by the High Command. First of all, it is reflected in unified control and centralized management of strategic missile forces and in the improvement of the structures and combat readiness in the interests of the Commonwealth as a whole. This is the first very important task.

The second task is connected with the fact that we have begun a military reform in all the Commonwealth states that have formed their own armed forces. Every state of the Commonwealth is beginning to develop its own military doctrine. I think that these concepts—military policy, military doctrine, and military reform—should be coordinated as much as possible.

The third task is that we know we will not be able to avert various conflicts in the future, both within the CIS, and possibly on the border of the CIS. In particular, you know the situation that has arisen on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. We must, of course, react in some way to these developments.

And the last chief task will consist of achieving maximum coordination of our military policy on a global scale so that we can.... [changes thought] I mean, on the basis of the events and phenomena taking place in the world, we have decided to reach a maximum consensus of our views and to coordinate them as much as possible. [end recording]

[Akkuratov] Another piece of information: It seems the idea of setting up Commonwealth disengagement forces is becoming a reality. Proposals on these peacemaking subunits will be presented at the meeting of the members of the Security Council on 16 July in Tashkent.

Notes 'Disengagement Forces'

OW0807142792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1316 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A session of the Defense and Foreign Ministers, and the commanders of the border forces of the CIS states is to be held in Tashkent on July 16, the Commander-in-Chief of the CIS Joint armed forces Marshall Shaposhnikov reported at a press conference in Moscow on July 8. The session is expected to discuss an issue on creation of the so called "disengagement forces" to settle interethnic conflicts and priority tasks. Shaposhnikov believes that after Dniester the CIS "Blue Helmets" must be sent to Tajikistan. Speaking on Karabakh, Shaposhnikov noted that many problems are not yet quite clear.

Recently appointed deputy Commander-in-Chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces Colonel General Boris Pyankov will coordinate the activity of "disengagement forces".

Marshall Shaposhnikov qualified the situation in Moldova as uncontrolled. Making comments on the recent statement of commander of the 14th Army General Lebed, Marshall said that it is difficult to abstain from sharp assessments of actions undertaken by Chisinau" [no opening quote as received]. He refuted the statements made by Chisinau that the presence of the 14th Army in Dniester destabilizes the situation saying that "it was stationed their decades ago and did not disturb anybody". It is not the army that matters but the forces striving to power, Marshall stressed.

He also reported that though Ukraine did not sign an agreement on air defense at the Moscow meeting of the CIS states' leaders it has an opportunity to sign identical bilateral agreements with Russia and Byelarus, and with any other CIS state.

Explains Strategic Forces Status

PM0907113092 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jul 92 p 1

[Report by correspondent Lieutenant Colonel A. Dokuchayev on 8 July Moscow press conference by Marshal of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces: "Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces Will Live On, Marshal of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov Believes"]

[Text] It is well known that a session of the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth was held in Moscow 6 July. Yesterday Marshal of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces, held a news conference at 41, Leningrad Prospekt. The meeting of heads of state, he said, was characterized by a constructive and dynamic approach. Six documents were signed on military matters.

Among the most important is the agreement on the component parts of missile early warning systems and space monitoring [kontrol kosmicheskogo prostranstva] systems. It amounts to the following. The facilities comprising these systems are the property of the republics in which they are located, but they fulfill a common goal. There is nothing so terrible about the fact that Moldova did not sign the document, because it has no missile early warning stations on its territory, but there is such a station in Azerbaijan—near Mingechaur. What is to be done about that now? What about the station in Latvia? Marshal Shaposhnikov expressed the view that Russia, as the USSR's successor in the strategic arms sphere, must enter into a talks process with the sovereign republics and resolve the questions that have arisen. An agreement on the air defense system was signed.

The question of strategic arms was resolved with difficulty. Complexities arose because the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet has adopted a decision: There should be no foreign troops on the republic's territory. So that means that only Kiev now has the right and opportunity to appoint the relevant commanding officers and draft people into units and formations of the Strategic Forces. And that amounts to administrative control of the troops. Moscow is left with operational control and... the responsibility for nuclear safety. Basically it is proposed that Moscow take responsibility for the actions of Ukrainian specialists, which is not acceptable. Therefore the heads of state issued a protocol memorandum on the need for immediate talks between Byelarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine on the practical implementation of the treaties and agreements that have been concluded relating to the Strategic Nuclear Forces of the former USSR.

An agreement was concluded on the organization of the activity of the Joint Armed Forces Main Command, which will represent the interests of all the republics. The Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces will live on, Ye. Shaposhnikov noted, since there are now strategic weapons on the territory of four states.

The marshal of aviation outlined the structure of the Commonwealth military system. The Main Command is subordinate to the Council of Heads of State. There will also be a collegial organ—the Council of Defense Ministers. It will hold sessions as necessary, or once every two or three months. A committee for the coordination of nuclear strategy and a secretariat are to be set up under the Council of Defense Ministers. Then there is the Strategic Forces command to which the nuclear triad is subordinate, and then the directorate responsible for the maintenance of nuclear weapons, and the strategic support organs.

The Main Command incorporates the CIS Joint Armed Forces staff, and attached to it, operating on an ad hoc basis, there will be the committee of chiefs of staff and several other committees, such as the committee on military-technical policy. The deputy chiefs of the Joint Armed Forces staff—one from each Commonwealth state, with his own apparatus—will operate on a permanent basis. A press center is also being set up. The Main Command is raising the question of its own press organ. It is suggested that the journal SOVETSKIY VOIN could fulfill this function.

A decision was adopted on appointing a deputy commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces. He is Colonel General Boris Pyankov. He will be concerned with questions of averting conflict situations.

Shaposhnikov Accuses Ukraine of Violations

LD0807190292 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1800 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] The Russian Army has accused Ukraine of violating international and interstate treaties. The Supreme Commander of the combined CIS Armed Forces, Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, has told newsmen in Moscow that Ukraine, having put strategic units under its jurisdiction, has violated the Lisbon agreement. In keeping with the accords, all CIS members but Russia are to abandon the status of nuclear states.

The Black Sea Fleet Commander, Admiral Igor Kasatonov, has described the events in Odessa where Ukraine has been taking over some naval units unilaterally, as a violation of the Dagomys Treaty.

Black Sea Fleet Issues

General Accused of Violating Fleet Agreement

LD0807125292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1124 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, July 8 TASS—Commander of the Black Sea Fleet Igor Kasatonov accused commander of the Odessa Military District of "grossly violating article 14 of the Dagomys agreement on the Black Sea Fleet". A marine regiment of the Black Sea Fleet swore allegiance to Ukraine on orders of General Radetski and was transferred under the command of the military district, Kasatonov said in a telegram to Radetski which was received by TASS on Wednesday [8 July].

The Coordinating Council of Officers' Assemblies of the Black Sea Fleet also expressed its surprise that Ukraine unilaterally undermines Black Sea Fleet agreements. Such actions can destabilise the situation at the Fleet, it said in a telegram to Russian and Ukrainian presidents and defence ministers.

The "FLEET OF UKRAINE" newspaper, published in Sevastopol, also fuels the conflict, a spokesman for the Black Sea Fleet, Andrey Lazebnikov, told TASS. It published classified messages of the fleet commander on Wednesday and came out with an article saying that officers who swore allegiance to Ukraine and were sacked by Kasatonov got a promotion from their new Ukrainian commanders.

Officers Threaten To Create Russian Fleet

LD0807152792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1458 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Mikhail Stetsyuk]

[Text] Sevastopol, July 8 TASS—The Coordinating Council of Officers' Assemblies of the Black Sea Fleet warned on Wednesday [8 July] it may take resolute measures if the "Ukranisation" of the fleet is not stopped.

In a message to presidents and defence ministers of Russia and Ukraine the officers warned that in case "a large-scale and coordinated campaign aimed at destabilising the situation in the fleet" is not stopped they may "neutralise the military engaged in nationalistic propaganda, independently initiate the creation of the Russian fleet and hoist St. Andrew's flag over the ships." Moreover, they will join "the political struggle for the holding of a referendum on the future of the Crimea.

The officers demanded that the status of the fleet be determined immediately and its command be given legal grounds for activities on the Ukrainian territory.

The officers invited the Russian and Ukrainian ministers to Sevastopol to get first-hand information and suggested that they issue orders prohibiting the military to engage in propaganda and political struggle inside and ouside the fleet.

Admiral Says Fleet Issue Growing Complicated

OW0807193492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1810 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The debate surrounding the Black Sea fleet continues and the situation is growing more and more complicated, the commander of the Black Sea fleet Igor Kasatonov told journalists in St. Petersburg Wednesday [8 July]. Admiral Kasatonov came to the city on the Neva for a private visit.

Kasatonov said only principle decisions were signed in Dagomys on the division of the Black Sea forces into two fleets. No concrete process for this division has been established, which, Kasatonov feels only deepens the ambiguity. In addition, the Admiral said that the presidents will change the Dagomys agreements and will realize the need to maintain a single fleet; "logic and common sense indicates this", Kasatonov said.

Minesweeper Crew Takes Oath in Breach of Accord

PM0907110592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jul 92 p 3

[Captain Second Rank A. Pasyakin report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Attempt Made To Administer Ukrainian Oath on the Minesweeper Signalshchik in Breach of Agreements. Unsuccessful"]

[Text] Sevastopol—KRASNAYA ZVEZDA has been informed at the Black Sea Fleet press center that an oath of allegiance to Ukraine was administered 28 June to the crew of the ocean minesweeper Signalshchik, at that time under the command of Captain Third Rank T. Suleymanov.

On the previous evening Captain Lieutenant V. Levshchenko, the ship's assistant commanding officer for personnel work, held a general meeting at which he and the commanding officer called on the crew to take the Ukrainian oath. On the following day, in breach of the established rituals and requirements of Navy Regulations, the Ukrainian state flag was raised on the gaff.

It turned out that the main organizer of the action was Captain Lieutenant V. Levshchenko, the ship's assistant commanding officer for personnel work. He deceived the crew by declaring that the moratorium on the operation of the decrees of the Russian and Ukrainian presidents on the Black Sea Fleet has ended, and that the time had come to determine their positions on the question of their allegiance. Two members of the crew (Assistant Commanding Officer Senior Lieutenant Aleksandr Kovalenko and Senior Seaman Daniil Nikitenko-Pavlinskiy) protested this high-handedness and resolutely refused to take the Ukrainian oath.

Captain Third Rank Suleyman and Captain Lieutenant Levshchenko have been removed from their posts and placed under the jurisdiction of the commander of the Crimean Naval Base. Now the flags flown by the minesweeper fully comply with Navy Regulations.

Media

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 9 Jul

LD0907054292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0529 GMT 9 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS: "Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, July 9 TASS—Today's press highlights the meeting between the Group of Seven [G-7] leaders and the Russian president in Munich. The press qualifies the meeting as a historic one signifying a turning point in East-West relations.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA (THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER) points out that the G-7 took up an unambiguous attitude of support for the policy of economic reforms in the former Soviet Union. This support is of great political importance. The newspaper quotes U.S. Secretary of State James Baker as saying that the G-7 leaders' meeting with Boris Yeltsin will give a powerful encouraging impetus to forces that favour democratic reforms on the territory of the former Soviet Union.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, commenting on the results of the meeting in Munich asserts that Russia "has been saddled by the G-7." The newspaper believes that Russia will not get anything from the West. "The 24 billion dollars, as has already been repeatedly proved in a well-argumented way, is nothing more than a mirage," the newspaper points out. As the newspaper put it, the "blue dream" of George Bush is to try to attach Russia to the G-7 politically, not economically, to make the current reforms irreversible.

The press widely comments on the examination by the Constitutional Court of Russia of whether President Yeltsin's decrees suspending the activities of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the Russian Communist Party correspond to the country's fundamental law. PRAVDA describes this "case" as a trial.

"I regard these proceedings probing into the constitutionality of the CPSU as an attempt by the pseudo-democrats to do away with all those who were members of the Communist Party," Gennadiy Zyuganov, former Politburo member and secretary of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee, told the newspaper.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA draws attention to arguments by Sergey Shakhray, representative of the president of Russia at the court session, who maintains that "the CPSU Charter, not the Constitution, was the fundamental law of the state." Representatives of the president insist on a conclusion that the CPSU was a state-managing structure, not a social organisation, because, they argue, "the everyday practice of the CPSU was the usurpation of power and undermining of the country's state sovereignty."

The press continues to devote much attention to the situation at the flashpoints in the Commonwealth of Independent States. "People in the Dniester region hope that the armed conflict in the eastern areas of Moldova will be resolved peacefully," TRUD writes. The newspaper reports that the hope is inspired by a joint order, signed by the three sides on July 8, on a cease-fire throughout the Dniester region.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA reports that the parliament of Moldova has postponed the consideration of an item concerning the granting of a special administrative and political status to the region. The parliament passed a resolution stating that "all measures that are being taken for a peaceful settlement of the conflict encounter the obstinacy of secessionist leaders."

PRAVDA has asked General Lebed 15 questions. The commander of Russia's 14th Army in the Dniester region stated that he does not intend to permit genocide "against our people in the Dniester region." "What is happening in the Dniester region is an aggression. One cannot fail to react to it, and we shall react," he said.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR) newspaper examines the problem of the Kuril Islands which have become the main obstacle in the development of relations between Russia and Japan. The newspaper's analyst Aleksandr Golts discusses the origins of the problem and prospects for its settlement. In addition, the newspaper gives the opinions on that score by N. Solovyov, a departmental chief at the Russian Foreign Ministry, and A. Kawato, a spokesman for the Embassy of Japan in Russia.

Nikolay Myakinik, an economist, has told NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA that the government's resolution "on a state regulation of the prices of energy resources and of other types of products and services" will have a negative effect on the development of the Russian economy as a whole. He maintains that the resolution puts the oil-producing enterprises in a disadvantageous position, which will result in their unprofitabilty, which, in its turn, will lead to the curtailment of oil production.

NEZAVISMAYA GAZETA today carries an open letter by scientists and museum workers to the president of the Russian Federation, expressing "great concern over the destiny of Russia's cultural heritage."

They urge the president to bring about an end "to lawlessness and arbitrariness that are being practised through the fault of the local and central authorities that manage the cultural legacy according to their own situation-determined considerations."

The authors of the letter state that museums and restoration workshops are deprived of their premises, museum collections get stored and inaccessible for review and research, museum buildings turn up in lists of office space intended for sale at auctions while country houses and commercial institutions are built in managed nature reserves and protective zones near them.

International Affairs

Lebed Statement Accuses Moldova of 'Fascism'

PM0707101992 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Jul 92 p 1

["Statement" by A.I. Lebed, Commander of the 14th Combined Arms Guards Russian Army, dated 4 July: "Tragedy on the Dniester: Statement by the Commander of the 14th Combined Arms Guards' Russian Army"]

[Text] Before setting out the essence of my statement, I want to make three points.

1. I hereby officially declare that I am of sound mind and in good memory. I am sound in body and am responsible for my every word.

2. I want to immediately dismiss all possible accusations that I, a general and a military man, am meddling in politics. I also categorically reject such accusations and hereby state to you that I am going to speak as a Russian officer with a conscience.

3. There will be no press conference in the usual sense today. I will speak, you will listen if you are interested, and I am not going to answer questions today.

Above all I am addressing you, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, the first president of a free Russia. I also address the presidents of the sovereign republics, the peoples, governments, and parliaments, and all who want to listen to me.

Comrade Commander in Chief, I, Major General Lebed, am reporting to you as commander of the 14th Combined Arms Army.

There is no interethnic conflict on the border between the Dniester Moldavian Republic and the Republic of Moldova. Some 39 percent of the population of the Dniester region is Moldovan, 26 percent Ukrainian, and 24 percent Russian. These people have always lived together in peace. They were born and brought up here and their ancestors lie buried here. What is happening here is genocide against our own people. I shall cite some facts to confirm this.

As of today the death toll on the Dniester side alone stands at 650 people, with up to 4,000 wounded. The overwhelming majority of the dead and wounded—around two-thirds—are civilians, women, old people, and children. They are not servicemen, they are not people liable for the draft, they are not in paramiltary formations. If what is happening in Bendery is the "restoration of constitutional order," the whole world community should revise the concept of "occupation."

According to the latest information, a cannery in Bendery has been ransacked, finished produce has been stolen, and the plant burned down. At the oil extraction plant produce has been taken and the plant has been burned down and mined. At the brewery, finished output has been taken. At the biochemical plant some of the equipment has been taken and the plant has been looted and burned down. The dairy combine has been partly put out of action. The bread combine has been looted. The footwear factory has been looted. Virtually all the stores have been looted. The children's polyclinic, the health center, the city polyclinic, the women's clinic, and the gynecological department have all been ransacked. The city's lighting has been put out of action completely. The Varnitsy reservoir has been knocked out. The central telephone substation has been destroyed. Around 50 percent of the housing has been destroyed. Virtually all the schools, kindergartens, and medical institutions have been destroyed or blown up. The population of Bendery, those that remain, would be doomed to poverty even if peace were to dawn there tomorrow. They have nowhere to earn their daily bread. All the enterprises where they could have worked have been destroyed, looted, or ruined, and the depots and production premises have been blown up.

Sabotage is increasing all the time. The main efforts are aimed at knocking out power industry capacities and power lines. As of 4 July the 330 kilovolt Dnestrovsk-Chisinau power line, the 110 kilovolt Dnestrovsk-Tiraspol-Bendery power line, the Tiraspol-Kitskani-Tolmazy-Chobruchi power line, and the Bendery South substation had been knocked out. Yesterday I received a report that on Ukrainian territory pylons of the Mogilev-Kamenets Podolskiy power line had been blown up. Thus the power supply to the national economy of the Dniester region has been most seriously damaged.

According to various figures, the number of refugees ranges from 120,000 to 150,000. It is impossible to be any more precise than that.

I officially report that there is no postcommunist regime, no procommunist regime, no neocommunist regime, or any other regime here on the territory of the Dniester region. Here there are just ordinary people who are being systematically, hypocritically, and brutally annihilated. And annihilated in a way that makes the SS of 50 years ago look like mere amateurs.

The Army's Military Council has extensive film, photographic, and video materials and is ready to submit them to examination by any commission appointed by the international community.

I hereby report that the systematic shelling of the Dubossary dam has created real preconditions for a colossal ecological catastrophe. If the dam itself is destroyed the 465 million cubic meters of water in the reservoir will rush down the Dniester valley. A tidal wave 20 meters high in Dubossary itself and up to 8 meters high by the time it reaches Chobruchy will sweep away everything before it, including 31 population centers on the right bank of the Dniester and 28 on the left bank, and will destroy all low bridges, reservoirs, and treatment works...

Not to mention the fact that on the territory of Bendery there are a great many depots storing toxic substances such as ammonium hydroxide, chlorine, and liquefied gas. It was only due to the efforts of the servicemen of a relay-cable battalion that a major catastrophe was averted yesterday. Containers of liquefied gas were punctured with bullet holes and the gas began to leak and spread across the ground. There was potential there for a colossal explosion. Servicemen cordoned the city off themselves.

I consider it necessary to bring it to everyone's attention that the talks now being conducted at the highest level are nothing more than an attempt to win time so as to create an offensive grouping. The Moldovan people do not want to fight. They are a good and peaceful people, they were once happy and cheerful. The Moldovan Defense Ministry has no alternative but to hire mercenaries.

Here are some facts. High-power artillery systems targeted on Tiraspol, Dubossary, and Bendery have been rapidly transferred to the areas of the Cosnita and Cocieri bridgeheads in the past 24-48 hours. Thirty-two Romanian volunteer pilots have been sent to Markuleshty airfield near Beltsy to fly the MiG-29s based there. In the next few days 10 MiG-25s are due to arrive there—perhaps they already have. The pilots are Romanian, the markings those of the Republic of Moldova. At the former air assault troops training center at Bulboki, 50 km east of Chisinau, a special-purpose detachment is being formed and will soon be combat ready. The instructors are Romanian and the crews of the infantry fighting vehicles and airborne fighting vehicles are formed from Romanian officers and enlisted men. The influx of snipers from Lithuania and Latvia, primarily women, has increased sharply. Attacks with "Uragan" launchers have been planned against Tiraspol airfield, the only one in the Dniester region, and against individual installations and encampments of the 59th motorized rifle division.

Here are some conclusions.

The shadow of fascism hangs over this fertile land. I believe that the former vast country must be aware of this. And it must remember what price it paid to break the back of fascism 47 years ago. It must delve into its historical memory. It must remember the result of making concessions to fascism. It must take every measure to ensure that fascists are publicly humiliated as they deserve. Preferably at the Cocierii bridgehead, where the land is still riddled with shrapnel and where every meter of soil is stained with the blood of the liberating army of 1944-1945.

Conclusion number two. What I have seen, heard, and observed gives me the moral right to state (paradoxical and perhaps even ridiculous as it may seem, I am not going to pass judgment) that I can no longer regard the lawfully elected, and I stress lawfully elected president of Moldova, Mircea Snegur, as president. Yes, he was elected lawfully, but on a wave of euphoria due to increasing national self-awareness and self-respect, and in place of the sovereign leadership he organized a fascist state with a fascist clique. The defense minister is a general or rather not a general but a cannibal from the DOSAAF [Voluntary Society for the Promotion of the Army, Aviation, and Navy]: Brigade General Kostash mobilizes people one evening and sends them into battle next morning... My attitude toward fascists is clear-cut, precise, and quite definite. I would like to draw this fact to the attention of the people of ancient Moldova. Let them think who is ruling them and where they are being led.

Point three. The inhabitants of the earth, all of us put together (I am not suffering from megalomania, you can note that fact) should join together and take a definite stand. The time has come to take a stand. It is time to stop wallowing in the mire of a politics that is little understood and hardly comprehensible. As for the state that I have the honor to represent here, I can add that I have had enough of living like a beggar. Like goats searching for carrots. Enough of that. It is time to get down to work, to protect the state. Let us get down to work—we have things to do.

The last point. I shall end my statement as I began. I have spoken as a Russian officer with a conscience, I am at least firm in my knowledge of that. I have said all these things to give people food for thought. I stress that I have said this so that you, Comrade Politicians, and you, The People, should think.

Thank you for your attention.

[Signed] A.I. Lebed, commander of the 14th Army
4 July 1992, Tiraspol

Quadripartite Talks on Dniester Conflict Held

OW0307131692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1248 GMT 3 Jul 92

[Report by Andrey Lukin, Vadim Milyukov, and Igor Porshnev from "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia wants Dniester representatives to take part in one form or other in a meeting by the foreign ministers of Moldova, Romania, Ukraine and Russia in Moscow later today to discuss the regional conflict, the Russian foreign minister's aide Galina Sidorova said. She made it clear this was necessary although difficult.

On this morning's meeting between the Russian and Ukrainian foreign ministers, Sidorova spoke of identity of positions by Moscow and Kiev on ways of settling the conflict in Dniester.

The aide said Russia and Ukraine would work together at the meeting with Moldova and Romania adding that the two countries would stick to a common line in settling the regional conflict and were ready to act as guarantors to a political settlement.

To clarify her point, she expressed the hope that the negotiating process would help hammer out some kind of a political status to Dniester to which Moscow and Kiev would act as guarantors.

Sidorova also indicated that the Russian and Ukrainian ministers focused on ways of implementing the deal presidents Yeltsin and Kravchuk reached at Dagomys.

The ministers decided to instruct their delegations to start work immediately on drafting a comprehensive political treaty between Ukraine and Russia, and Sidorova suggested that the appropriate paper would soon be submitted for consideration by the Russian and Ukrainian leaders.

She said Russian and Ukrainian delegations would also work over other agreements to widen the legal framework of bilateral relations.

The Russian foreign minister's aide said that a private meeting between Kozyrev and Zlenko was a possibility during the four-nation conference in Moscow. Further details about this and the conference itself will be published in IF [INTERFAX] news bulletins.

Diplomat Outlines Goals, Policy on Georgia

OW0607121892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1149 GMT 6 Jul 92

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by "diplomatic correspondents" V. Milyukov, I. Porshnev and "others"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia is interested in maintaining friendly relations with Georgia and in having "transparent frontiers" with it, said an expert from Russia's Foreign Ministry monitoring ties with Georgia.

The Dagomys meeting between the Russian President Boris Yeltsin and the Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze became a kind of "watershed" designed to add a new substance to relations between Russia and Georgia, he told DP's [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent. The meeting removed "the last obstacles" on the road to diplomatic ties between Russia and Georgia, and they were established on July 1.

"At the moment Russo-Georgian relations develop in the spirit and on the basis of agreements reached in Dagomys, and their prospects are good", the diplomat said.

He said he hopes that the conflict in South Ossetia which still affects the relationship between Russia and Georgia will be settled "by joint efforts".

The diplomat also dwelled on the problems of trade and economic cooperation. According to him, Moscow and Tbilisi intend to sign in the near future an agreement on economic cooperation "experts are working on now".

Khasbulatov Recieves Georgian Delegation

LD0807173192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Report by correspondent S. Dadyko; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] If the problems in South Ossetia can be resolved through peaceful political means, then a solution to all other questions in relations between Georgia and Russia will be found, Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov said today while receiving a delegation from the Georgian State Council. The Supreme Soviet chairman also recalled his 15 June statement on the situation in South Ossetia, noting that it was aimed at having everyone understand the importance of the issue.

The people present expressed the hope that after the Dagomys agreement, the Ossetian conflict can be resolved without bloodshed. For Georgia, which is not part of the CIS, a separate path for contacts with our country is necessary. Today's meeting, according to Georgian State Council member Valerian Advadze, is the start of cooperation between the parliaments of two sovereign states that should lead to the development and signing of an all-encompassing treaty between Russia and Georgia.

Further on Meeting

LD0807133192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1247 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksandr Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow, July 8 TASS—Russian Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov and members of Georgian State Council discussed normalisation of bilateral relations on Wednesday [8 July].

The Russian Parliament is ready "without any hesitation to begin cooperating with the Georgian side on the most wide range of questions", the speaker said. However, Georgia does not take in full consideration the position of the Russian Parliament and public towards South Ossetia. "This problem became the major one at present", Khasbulatov stressed.

Funds Allocated To Aid South Ossetia

LD0807184692 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Russia has allocated 204 million rubles as humanitarian aid for South Ossetia. This money will go to purchase construction materials, utensils, and basic necessities for refugees who should return home before the cold weather sets in.

Joint Action With Georgia in Ossestia Begins

PM0907153792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Jul 92 First Edition p 7

[Correspondent Aleksandr Aleshkin report: "Commanders Bent Over Operational Maps To Ensure That Accords Are Not Left Hanging in Midair"]

[Text] A mixed control commission comprising Sergey Shoygu, chairman of the Russian State Committee for Emergency Situations; Tengiz Kitovani, Georgian first deputy prime minister and defense minister; and Sergey Khetagurov, chairman of the North Ossetian Council of Ministers, continued its work 6 and 7 July in Tbilisi and Sukhumi. An executive mechanism has been set up to implement the accords reached in Dagomys by the leaders of Russia, Georgia, and North and South Ossetia.

What has already been accomplished?

First of all the structure for the mixed armed forces has been approved. Outposts comprising three platoons or branches—Georgian, Ossetian, and Russian—will be set up in areas where there are regular clashes. Their commanders will adopt joint decisions and monitor the situation on the territory under their jurisdiction. The intention is to organize up to four dozen outposts of this kind.

A highly important question has been agreed: How and in what circumstances will the combined formations use force? First, everything is done to separate the conflicting forces without bloodshed. By 14 July both Georgian and Ossetian formations are to leave the 15km "security corridor" centered on Tskhinval. In the event of insubordination or armed attacks, bandit formations will be quashed by fire from a team of combat helicopters or an artillery division.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gives News Briefing

Comments on Yugoslav Sanctions, Honecker

LD0707122992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1222 GMT 7 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Skripnikov and Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow July 7 TASS—Russia will not abandon sanctions against Yugoslavia despite recommendations of the national parliament, according to spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry.

"National parliaments have no right to adopt decisions doubting resolutions of the U.N. Security Council", Sergey Yastrzhembskiy said at a briefing on Tuesday [7 July].

Speaking on the fate of former East German leader, holed up in the Chilean Embassy in Moscow, Yastrzhembskiy reiterated the Russian stand that "Erich Honecker's question" is to be settled by Germany and Chile. "Russia does not distance itself from finding a compromise which will suit all sides. But Russia will not allow unlawful stay of Mr. Honecker on the Russian territory", he added.

Voices 'Concern' at U.S. Senators

PM0807142792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 4

[Gennadiy Charodeyev report: "Attacks on the START Treaty"]

[Text] A Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman has sent IZVESTIYA an official document which expresses Moscow's concern at the attacks in the U.S. Congress on the START Treaty.

It has emerged that our diplomats have received information from Washington that a small group of extreme right-wing U.S. senators have launched a campaign to demand that the administration all but revise some of the key provisions of this treaty and essentially reject it and subsequent accords on the reduction of strategic offensive arms.

In the Russian Foreign Ministry's opinion, such attempts would hardly have been taken seriously but for certain facts. The steps being taken by the extreme right-wingers to wreck the START treaty are simultaneously aimed at eroding the strengthening legal basis of Russian-U.S. partnership, demonstrate a desire to revive the image of Russia as the main enemy of the United States, and give support to the military-industrial complex. It is well known that certain "patriots" in Russia support the same line.

Views U.S. Moves on Nuclear Arms

LD0707121892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1206 GMT 7 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Skripnikov and Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow July 7 TASS—The United States has completely withdrawn its tactical nuclear weapons from foreign states for subsequent elimination, according to reports. "We assess it as good news", spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry said at a briefing on Tuesday [7 July].

Sergey Yastrzhembskiy added that Russia is implementing the decree of its president on the withdrawal and elimination of tactical nuclear arms. The weapons were transferred from Byelarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine to Russia for elimination. A number of agreements on eliminating the weapons has been signed with the United States and new joint measures are being negotiated, he added.

Mutual Russian and U.S. efforts in the sphere of tactical nuclear arms considerable lower the nuclear danger, the spokesman stressed, adding Russia is ready to move forward in the field.

Diplomat Notes Relations With Finland

OW0707125992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1151 GMT 7 Jul 92

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature; by "special correspondents" V. Miliukov, I. Porshnev and "others"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] During President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Finland to be paid on July 10-11 work will be concluded on a "standard package" of treaties and agreements designed to determine the development of friendly and neighborly relations between the two countries, a prominent member of Russia's Foreign Ministry who monitors Russo-Finnish ties told DP's [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent.

According to him, foundations for promoting relations between Russia and Finland were laid last January, when State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis visited Helsinki. During his visit three important documents were signed: a treaty on the foundations of relations between Russia and Finland, an agreement on trade and economic cooperation, and an agreement on cooperation in the areas of Murmansk, Karelia, St.Petersburg and Leningrad Region.

During the visit to be paid to Finland this week by the Russian President, the diplomat said, work will be concluded on forming a legal base for the bilateral relationship. There are plans to sign a treaty on cooperation in the field of culture, education and research, and an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation.

Besides, there are plans to sign a number of other agreements "if the endeavours to coordinate them with the Finns before the upcoming visit prove to be successful". These include agreements on the protection of investments and on the reciprocal maintenance of soldiers' graves in Finland and Russia.

With reference to problems existing in the bilateral relationship the Russian Foreign Ministry expert pointed out that in the political area there are no outstanding problems requiring solution on the highest level.

This cannot be said about trade and economic cooperation. According to the diplomat, in recent years and particularly in the past few months the decline in the level of bilateral trade has been overwhelming.

"Previously trade with this country accounted for 25% of Finland's foreign trade turnover. Now it makes up 3 to 6%", the expert said. According to him, Russia's share in the system of Finland's foreign trade "is actually disappearing. Last January and February alone the volume of trade between Russia and Finland fell by 4.4%".

The expert singled out the following reasons for the sharp decline in the volume of trade: fluctuations in the world prices of oil and the sudden transition from clearing to hard-currency settlements as of January 1, 1990. "We eliminated the clearing system but failed to provide for transitional measures or for a period of transition. And this had a sharply negative impact on bilateral trade", he stressed.

The problem of long-term and short-term debts is a major one in trade between Russia and Finland, the expert said. "We owe Finland more than 1 billion convertible rubles", he pointed out. "There are several contracts remaining unfilled since the time of clearing. Some goods the Finns produced in the framework of production cooperation, such as special railway cars and telephone exchanges, are not paid for.

To rectify the situation this year the government of the Russian Federation introduced a special system of settlements designed to stimulate Russian exporters in trade with Finland, the diplomat said.

According to him, the relevant government resolution instructs departments involved in foreign trade in general and in trade with Finland in particular to sign interbank agreements that would regulate these issues.

"Russia has no intention of giving up the positive potential accumulated in the many years of relations with Finland. But it would like to build such relations on a new, democratic, basis, and will do its best to make these relations truly beneficial to both sides", the diplomat pointed out.

Gaydar, Lithuanian Leader Hold Economic Talks

OW0707175892 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1712 GMT 7 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "Russia is unilaterally reconsidering the provisions of its economic cooperation agreement" with Lithuania, said first deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council Ceslovas Stankevicius in an interview for Baltfax. In his words, at the Tuesday morning [7 July] meeting with Russia's acting prime minister Yegor Gaydar, the latter announced to the Lithuanian side that beginning from the second half of 1992, Lithuania would have to pay for the Russian commodities in world prices.

In the opinion expressed by Mr Stankevicius, the countries' bilateral accounting procedures would be finalized at the talks of the working groups. In the meantime, he noted that Russia's debt to Lithuania exceeds that of Lithuania to Russia by several billion rubles. By banning the use of payment orders the Russian Central Bank further complicated the supply of Russia's debt, Mr Stankevicius said.

According to the earlier arrangements, on July 7, Ceslovas Stankevicius was planning to have a meeting with President Boris Yeltsin. The meeting, however, was cancelled by the Russian president due to "technical reasons".

Discrimination Charges Denied

LD0807124792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1107 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Nikishov]

[Text] Moscow, 8 Jul—Russia does not discriminate against Lithuania in any way in either the political, economic, or military sphere. This was stated today by Viktor Isakov, head of the Russian delegation at the interstate talks with Lithuania, in response to a request by an ITAR-TASS correspondent to comment on yesterday's statement by Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Chairman Vitautas Lansbergis. He asserted in the statement that "Russia is fundamentally changing its relations with Lithuania" and that "it is failing to observe a treaty concluded with Lithuania".

Economic problems which emerge in relations with Lithuania, in particular in connection with a transfer to world prices, are characteristic of Russia's relations with other countries, Viktor Isakov noted. "We are ready to tackle all issues at the negotiating table", he stressed. "We are in favor of maintaining goodneighbourly, normal, and stable relations with Lithuania", the head of the Russian delegation concluded.

Estonia Warned Over Russian Discrimination

PM0807150992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 5

[Gennadiy Charodeyev report: "Moscow Warns Estonia of Impermissibility of Human Rights Violations"]

[Text] As already reported, a referendum was held in Estonia 28 June on the questions of the new constitution and of allowing persons who have applied for Estonian citizenship to take part in elections to the State Assembly. Practically the entire Russian-speaking population, which makes up over one-third of the country's inhabitants, was debarred from taking part in the referendum on the basis of the law on citizenship.

It is obvious that specialists in international law, public organizations defending human rights, and diplomats regard this fact as nothing other than ethnic discrimination against the non-Estonian population and as the total deprivation of these people of political rights and rights to representation. The Russian Foreign Ministry has issued a statement in this connection.

Answering a question from IZVESTIYA's correspondent, a ministry spokesman stressed that in the last few months, Moscow has repeatedly drawn the Estonian side's attention to the impermissibility in international law of such discriminatory practices, which run counter to the interstate treaty and to the spirit and letter of the CSCE documents on the human dimension.

"This political line," the Foreign Ministry spokesman declared, "along with the continuing provocative actions by the Estonian authorities with regard to the Russian troops that are being withdrawn, may seriously complicate bilateral relations and irreparably damage the positive potential for relations between the two countries. We reserve the right, if necessary, to use appropriate international mechanisms in order to draw the world community's attention to the human rights situation in the Republic of Estonia."

Estonia Urged To Prepare Citizenship Agreement

LD0807170992 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Russia has offered Estonia to begin at once preparing a special agreement on citizenship. It should be based on international human rights norms. The Russian side warned that it reserves the right, if needed, to use corresponding international mechanisms in order to draw the attention of the world community to the situation in the field of human rights in Estonia. According to its law on citizenship, the non-Estonian population has no right to take part in electing governing bodies.

Agreement Reached on CIS Affairs Minister Post

LD0807041392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] An agreement has been reached with the president of the Russian Federation on introducing a new ministerial post to deal with CIS affairs. This was announced by Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, at a meeting with Russian ambassadors to CIS countries on 7 July. Khasbulatov stressed the priority importance for Russia of establishing normal, friendly relations with CIS states. He also drew attention to the need for normal financial, material, and technical provisions for Russian Embassies in Commonwealth states. Speaking about prospects for mutual relations within the CIS, Khasbulatov mentioned the desirability of setting up an Interpol-type organization and joint ecological structures.

Outcome of CIS Summit Summed Up

LD0707142292

[Editorial Report] Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian at 1253 GMT on 7 July carries a three-minute interview with Aleksandr Grinberg, a member of the

Russian delegation at the Moscow CIS summit, by correspondent Aleksandr Ruvinskiy on the outcome of the summit.

Grinberg first comments on the ruble zone agreement, describing it as a fundamentally important document that defines "the conditions in which the economic zone of the former USSR will function". It was signed by both those who wish to stay in the ruble zone, and those who want to quit, he adds: "It is the terms for divorce for those who want it, for those who want to have real money, and it closes the marathon talks. This issue has taken several months to sort out. Estonia has brought in its own currency. In Dagomys, we agreed on the principles for separating the grivna from the ruble, but this agreement draws the line".

Grinberg adds that it will help with convertibility, because it sets out the scope of the ruble and the ruble zone, and agrees with Ruvinskiy that it will strengthen Russia's hand in dealings with the G-7.

Asked about the Economic Court, which will replace the Court of Arbitration, Grinberg likens it to the European Court. It will rule on all disputes arising from noncompliance with intergovernmental agreements and between enterprises in different states. "Unfortunately," he says, "it will have plenty to do."

[Ruvinskiy] "So this will be an instrument to allow agreements to be implemented?"

[Grinberg] "You see, this is one element in the creation of a kind of interstate legal structure. It is a mechanism that will function not just between one summit and the next. It will function separately from the CIS Council of Heads of State and Government. It will deal systematically with economic matters, and dovetails with the idea, which was supported today, of setting up a Coordinating and Consultative Economic Council".

U.S. Warships Visit for Joint Manuevers

PM0707160792 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jul 92 p 3

[Captain Second Rank V. Gundarov report: "'Northern Handshake'"]

[Text] Northern Fleet—A detachment of U.S. Atlantic 2d Fleet warships ended its official visit to the Northern Fleet 5 July. The transatlantic guests received a cordial reception throughout their five days spent in the fleet's main base—the city of Severomorsk. More than 100 U.S. seamen spent this time with the families of Russian ensigns and officers, visiting ships, inspecting modern aviation equipment at the Severomorsk-1 air base, and visiting the marine training center in the settlement of Sputnik.

They carried out a joint patrol entitled "Operation 'Northern Handshake'" on the last day of the visit in order to secure greater mutual understanding in the professional sphere as planned.

On the morning of 5 July, Russian and U.S. clergymen said public prayers for a good voyage on board the U.S ships. The large ASW [antisubmarine warfare] ship Admiral Levchenko and the destroyer Rastoropnyy, followed by the guided missile cruiser Yorktown and the destroyer O'Bannon, left their moorings in Severomorsk. Rear Admiral Yuriy Ustimenko, commander of the Russian squadron, was in command of the detachment. At sea he handed over command to Rear Admiral John Redd. Several times the ships changed order and made various joint maneuvers.

....At the point where the detachment broke up, they came within two cables of one another. Seamen formed up on deck and waved their caps in farewell. Our seamen returned home that same day. They returned with the hope that the Americans' and Russians' northern handshake would not be a fleeting episode in the history of our two states' mutual relations, but would spark off partnership at sea between the U.S. and Russian navies.

UK Warship Visits Baltiysk for Joint Exercise

PM0907133992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jul 92 p 3

[Correspondent Captain Second Rank V. Gromak report: "Russian-British Exercise Held"]

[Text] The British Navy guided missile frigate Battleaxe has ended its routine port call in Baltiysk. For three days British seamen saw the sights of Baltiysk, Svetlogorsk, and Kaliningrad and visited Baltiysk families, a children's home in Zelenograd, and the fleet hospital.

On the last day of the visit there was a joint maneuver and communication exercise involving Battleaxe and the large ASW [antisubmarine warfare] ship Admiral Panteleyev. Asked by your KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent what made this necessary, British Rear Admiral B. Richardson said: "A few years ago a communications system was set up between our two navies with a view to preventing undesirable excesses at sea between ships. The system is already in operation. Last August during Operation 'Dervish' a British Navy ship, the London, took up position in a formation of Russian military and merchant ships. They rehearsed common tasks together. I don't think that this experience shold be confined to the Northern Fleet. It must also be extended here in the Baltic."

Vice Admiral V. Litvinov, the Russian head of the exercise, described the joint exercise as putting trust into practice.

Federation Affairs

Rutskoy Addresses Urgent Agricultural Measures

OW0807113792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1047 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The republican session of the executive leaders of the territorial agencies was opened today in Moscow. It will discuss measures on harvesting and on normalization of the financial situation in the economy of the country.

Addressing the session, the Russian Vice President Aleksander Rutskoy reported that to overcome the crisis in the agrarian sphere the government has adopted a number of urgent measures. In particular, the producers of the agricultural products will be granted different privileges according to the governmental resolution signed on Tuesday [7 July] "On Additional Measures for Timely Harvesting and Storage of the Agricultural Production in 1992". The resolution envisages to channel about 90% of the fuel produced in Russia for the harvesting and allocation of additional favourable credits.

"One of the most sharp and difficult issues to be discussed" are the purchasing prices for grain, Aleksander Rutskoy said. If the grain is to be bought for 10,000 roubles a ton (this price is being discussed now) then one kilogram of bread will cost 35-40 roubles. According to the Vice President, "to retain the current retail prices for bread we need a 130 bn [billion] roubles donation".

'Battle for Harvest' Begun

LD0807142392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Our correspondent Tatyana Khudobina reports on the 1992 harvest. The headquarters for running harvest works will be operating round the clock, promptly responding to problems arising in the fields. This was reported by government members at a meeting with heads of administration of Russia's regions today. We are entering the battle for harvest once again. There are no other methods of work in agriculture. The rescue of the current harvest without exaggeration means the rescue of Russian reforms.

According to the Central Statistics Administration, we have grown 98 million tonnes of grain. Whether we will be able to collect even half of it, taking into account our global difficulties, is open to question.

[Begin Rutskoy recording] Our difficulties are the absence of private ownership of land and of the output produced, and the absence of storage and processing systems. On the average we are losing 52 percent of agricultural produce every year. If we manage to process at least 37 percent of this 52 percent, we will end up with a surplus. [end recording]

Meanwhile, farmers are creating strike committees, demanding fuel and payments for the harvest of 1990-1991. The government has found 200 million dollars to repay the debts owed to farmers and intends to provide them with incentives for every tonne above the norm. It is also setting up military battalions while trying to obtain from the Central Bank credit benefits, insistently asking farmers and regional leaders to postpone their arguments for the time being and to set about the harvest.

[Begin Rutskoy recording] People in villages must simply realize that if we approach this question from the position of ambitions and emotions, our country will go to pieces. [end recording]

Provincial Strikes Foreseen

LD0807225292 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Everything that was promised and that the state owes will be returned to the countryside and the peasants, Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy stated today. He was speaking at a conference with the heads of the republic's administration. Economic and financial issues, and harvesting problems were on the agenda.

Administrative leaders from the regions spoke of a most difficult situation in agriculture and expressed misgivings that because of the burden of prices and high taxes peasants simply will not sell anything to the state. Strike committees are being set up in the provinces. The vice president noted that an operational headquarters has been set up to effectively resolve problems, and $200 million have been found to pay for the harvest of the past years. The issue of advancing 50 percent payments toward expenditures in regard of the future harvest is being worked on. The major task is to gather the harvest in and to preserve it.

[Begin Rutskoy recording] People in the countryside should simply understand that if we approach this issue in a spirit of ambition and emotion, we will simply blow our own country up. And I don't know where all the money will come from. Again, we will be begging around the world and collecting humanitarian aid. [video shows Rutskoy addressing the conference]

Lebed Remarks Form 'Ultimatum' to Yeltsin

PM0907122992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Commentary by Vladimir Nadein: "General Lebed Delivers Ultimatum to Russian President"]

[Text] The statement of Major General A.I. Lebed, commander of the 14th Army, poses in unprecedentedly sharp form the question of whether Russia's generals are subordinate to the government or will continue to conduct their own policy at variance with that of the Russian president.

"I would like right away to sweep aside possible accusations that I, a general, a military man, am interfering in politics," A. Lebed said right at the beginning of his statement to journalists. "I categorically reject such charges, and I declare to you that I will speak as a Russian officer who has a conscience."

There are few people in the world who know better than the commander of this army the scale of the loss of life and destruction on Moldova's bloodstained soil. The terrible picture painted by the general of the pillaging of the until recently prosperous city of Bendery is staggering. A. Lebed's passionate desire to do everything in his power to stop events on the edge of the abyss into which civil war is dragging Moldova is understandable in human terms.

No one presumes to order the general not to think, not to feel, and not to suffer. No one has the right to impose on him a way of thinking alien to his ideas.

But there are incontestable principles developed by the entire course of civilization. In rejecting charges of interfering in politics, the general clearly indicates that he too considers this as unfitting for a military man.

However, in reality the commander of the Russian army is not only allowing himself to intrude into a sphere which is strictly forbidden for a military man. In reality he is delivering an ultimatum to his government and his commander in chief.

With a series of diplomatic decisions, from the meeting in Istanbul to the conference in Moscow, the Russian president has been mapping out a consistent line toward a peaceful settlement in Moldova.

A. Lebed's reaction to this is as follows: "It is time to cease to wallow in the mire of a policy which is little understood and almost unintelligible."

The presidents of Russia and Moldova hold a joint news conference in the Kremlin to announce the accords they have reached. The general demands a fundamentally different approach: "I can no longer regard the lawfully—I stress, lawfully—elected Moldovan President Snegur as a president...Instead of a powerful leadership, he has organized a fascist state, and he is surrounded by a fascist clique."

And how does he, commander of the Russian army stationed in Moldova, see a civilized peace settlement process? With no frills added. It is necessary "to adopt all measures to ensure that the fascists take their proper places in the stocks [na stolbe]. Preferably on the Kochiyeri bridgehead."

The statement contains many elements indicating that the general's black-and-white political vision is in no way compatible with his high state position. His analysis, according to which "there is no postcommunist, no procommunist, no neocommunist, and no other kind of regime in the Dniester region" is amazing. "No regime"—that is not something that can be said of a country. There are no countries without regimes. It is something that can be said of the person whom the Russian Government has appointed to one of the most critical positions in recent history.

In order to leave absolutely no doubt concerning the level of his understanding of the modern world, the general issues the following ultimatum—not to Moldova, but to Russia: "As for the state which I have the honor to represent here, I may add that it is time we stopped going round the world with a begging bowl. Like donkeys in search of carrots—enough. It is time to get down to business, to protect our state. Let us make a start—there will be plenty for us to do."

What does the general really think of his supreme commander in chief? It is not difficult for anyone who has spent even a few months in barracks to imagine. And it is a great pity if the difficult mission which B.N. Yeltsin is pursuing these days in Munich is presented in other barracks too as a donkey's hankering for carrots.

A year ago, in August 1991, Gen. Lebed won the respect of a great many people by refusing to send his tanks against the defenders of the Russian Supreme Soviet building. No one will deny him an officer's honor.

But the future of a great country is more precious than the most pleasant memories. If Russia wants to have a civilized, predictable army, it must secure from its generals unquestioning obedience to their duty as soldiers.

In a purely practical sense the conclusion is obvious. Although the general has delivered an ultimatum not to Snegur, but to Yeltsin, the Moldovan government will not talk with its executioners. Never. This means that President Yeltsin should immediately dismiss a commander who utterly rejects the policy of his government.

Gen. A. Lebed has determined for himself only one scenario in which he can remain head of the 14th Army: If there is war between Russia and Moldova tomorrow.

Banned From Media Contact

LD0907121292 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 9 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The leadership of the Russian Defense Ministry has forbidden Lebed, the commander of the 14th Army, contact with the mass media. The Defense Ministry considers his latest statements on the unlawfulness of the Moldovan Government, merely the personal opinion of the Russian officer. Nevertheless, the Defense Ministry in no way diminishes General Lebed's worthiness as a military commander. The Russian Army could probably not even assemble a dozen senior officers who have as much prestige among its staff as General Lebed.

Yeltsin Assesses First Year of Presidency

92BA1100A Belgrade VREME in Serbo-Croatian
15 Jun 92 pp 41-43

[Interview with Russian President Boris Yeltsin by the Russian news agency NOVOSTI for VREME in Moscow in June: "Russia Cannot Be Put Back in a Cell"]

[Text] [NOVOSTI] What in your opinion is the principal result of the first year of your presidency?

[Yeltsin] The first year has not been easy. There were as many events as during an entire presidential term in other times. However, the most important thing is that the economic reform has authentically begun, not just on paper. This is particularly important when we bear in mind the not very good stereotypes in politics that emerged during the recent years of perestroyka. Real politics gradually was transformed into a political philosophy: it was moving further and further away from practical moves, from the obligations of our state's leaders to carry out transformations.

Of course, there is nothing bad in political philosophy; the bad thing is when the political course contains nothing but philosophy. In recent years, quite a few handsome words have been uttered about the need for changes, about the impact they would have on people's thinking, on the entire world community. However, we have not advanced even a step in the practical transformations. We have in actuality given up on the difficult, day-to-day and usually thankless conceptual work that is the main thing in reforms. The country's top political leaders have been unimaginably shortsighted concerning the country's urgent needs when they were defining the global priorities of the contemporary world.

Today, when that recent period has already become history, we are seeing ever more obviously the thrust of a policy to save at any cost the views taken by the CPSU, to combine the incompatible: a totalitarian structure of the state and politics on the one hand and democracy on the other, the capability of exercising command over everything in a free market economy.

It was possible to do that only in speeches, only in demagogy, but not in life. The result of all that was that we lost several years, that we wasted the energy of millions of people and the country moved toward chaos. That is why I consider it the most important thing that nevertheless we have managed to overcome the flood of unproductive verbalism and begin practical reforms.

Today, the strengthening of the democratic foundations of Russia's statehood has already begun in real terms, not just on paper. The turning point in this job, which is by no means easy, is in my opinion August 1991, when we managed to frustrate a putsch by fairly strong conservative forces.

I repeat that the year has been very complicated and that we have not been successful in everything. None of us has had a special education in carrying out reforms, especially in such a specific country as Russia. However, the determination to carry out the reforms, regardless of the troubles in the first months, is still alive. We will not give up.

And something else. The very difficult economic reforms and formation of the institutions of government power are taking place under the conditions of civil peace. In a multinational federal state, we are managing to avoid conflicts on an ethnic basis.

[NOVOSTI] The country has entered a complicated period of real economic reforms. Who and what stand in the way of their accomplishment?

[Yeltsin] I would first speak about "what is hindering" rather than about "who is hindering." The main obstacle is that we have inherited from the past a social system that is completely degraded and is so in all its manifestations.

Because no market realities have existed in Russia over a long period of time, it was inevitable that we should actually start from scratch in reestablishing them. We must travel a road which our country at one time had already traveled, we must master what was set on fire by a hot iron 60-70 years ago. That is why it is no wonder that new things are being born today in monstrously insupportable forms and that there should be criminal tinges. This is also holding back progress to a considerable extent.

Today, there is a disastrous shortage of specialists in literally all fields adapted to the market.

The reforms are also being appreciably harmed by the weakness of Russian statehood. Its rebirth began back in the period of the omnipotence of the CPSU, during 1989 and 1990. That is when they began to create a strong bridgehead for it in Russia, something like a second line of defense. A quite conservative chorus of deputies managed to take shape. Then came the Russian Communist Party with its ultraconservative leadership. Detailed scenarios of the first congress (and the second, third, and so on, as well, for that matter) were written in the closed circle of the party leadership. But even then the exhausted party machine had begun to stall. The government institutions of Russia were nevertheless formed full of contradictions by necessity. They remained branches of the party-government machinery of the past, while at the same time they had elements of the new postcommunist Russia.

Today, that kind of division is becoming impossible, it is literally blocking the reform in the strategic directions. This was evident at the Sixth Congress of People's Deputies. I will never agree that it reflects the range of opinions and interests of present-day Russia. Most of the deputies are continuing to defend the previous totalitarian system and its direct product—the command economy. That kind of situation is repeated at all levels of government.

It must be changed, and this must be done on the basis of the new Russian Constitution. Until then, we will cooperate with the present legislative bodies, even though today they are a great impediment. Imagine the damage caused by the refusal of the congress to adopt the amendment to the current Constitution concerning private ownership of land! There have also been other difficulties, but, looking at the overall picture, they are nevertheless surmountable, because they cannot reject the reforms, but only hold back their adoption. The country cannot be returned to its cell.

[NOVOSTI] What are your forecasts for the coming years? When do you think that the first results of the economic reforms can be expected? When will the Russians be able to breathe free of the difficulties in everyday life?

[Yeltsin] That is a very important question. It is extremely difficult to live in Russia today, especially for people who were employed in the so-called budget-financed spheres, those who are receiving pensions, supplements, stipends, that is, those who have fixed incomes. A certain number of these people are literally poor.

So that is why we resorted to a certain moderation of the reforms, even when it meant the loss of a certain dynamism. We cannot accept a number of the demands of the International Monetary Fund, above all because we do not want to bring the economic reform itself under attack. This also applies to the free pricing of energy. We cannot close our eyes and consent to that.

There is a certain limit beyond which the drop in the standard of living must never go unless we want to have destructive social and political consequences. I categorically reject statements such as those to the effect that everyone is not able to withstand the transition to the market and that injury is inevitable.

Unfortunately, the crisis which has been having its way in the economy in recent years has accelerated to such an extent that it cannot be stopped immediately. We are experiencing the most problematical months of the reform: production is dropping, prices are rising, the ruble is still weak.

It is our principal task to halt the drop of production before the end of the year. In that way, we would avoid the lowest point of drop. The main condition for achieving that goal is preservation of stability in society.

[NOVOSTI] Russia has proclaimed itself the lawful successor of the USSR. How has this affected the government's foreign policy?

[Yeltsin] To be precise, Russia did not proclaim itself the legal heir to the USSR. It would not be right for Russia alone to assume the right of inheritance, because the Union was a federation of states. Last December, when the Union crossed the last line, the problem arose of the legal continuity of its obligations to the world community and to partner-states. That is why we declared that Russia was taking upon itself the Union's responsibility for treaties, agreements, and so on, concluded earlier.

None of the former republics of the Union would have been able to assume that obligation in its entirety. Russia is profoundly aware of the consequences that could have come from a vacuum in this area.

Our country considers it its obligation to continue the constructive changes in the USSR's course of foreign policy which have been initiated in recent years. Not to alter that direction, not to back off from what has been done in a constructive way, but on the contrary, to enrich it and implement the declarations.

However, the character of Russia's foreign policy is not determined by that alone. The USSR's course of foreign policy nevertheless carried a considerable ideological imprint and was a product of party obligations. That was the case until recently. As though there existed two foreign policies of the Soviet Union: one colored by the new political reasoning, and the other, which had survived as the prior motley policy that stimulated the so-called world revolutionary process and the "international communist movement." The activity of fraternal communist parties was financed, for example.

All of this has been very harmful to the strategic interests of the country and, of course, of Russia. The Union's course of foreign policy was for those reasons rather meandering, and so it aroused a number of doubts.

We are now trying to erase the consequences of that kind of policy. We have rejected the hypocrisy of the conception of confrontation, of division of the world into ours and the others on the basis of ideological criteria. The main result of the first months of Russian foreign policy, in my opinion, is that the world community is putting more and more trust in Russia. Today, they do not see us as a totalitarian monster or its successor, but as a state which with immense difficulty has moved in the direction of normal civilized life, and they are supporting it. Not because we, as has been said, have "sold out" to the West, but because the contemporary world realizes that such an immense country must become democratic and economically developed as soon as possible. Otherwise, a multitude of threats and dangers to world stability will originate here, in Russia.

[NOVOSTI] In the West, they are expressing concern because of the possible division of the former Soviet nuclear potential. How justifiable is that fear?

[Yeltsin] There is a solid basis for keeping the spread of nuclear weapons, including Soviet weapons, under permanent international control. Of course, none of the nuclear powers has so far experienced the kind of global changes of the former Soviet Union, so that the present concern is understandable to us. It is not permissible for nuclear weapons to become the stake in any kind of political game. And it is still less permissible for conditions to be brought about affording hope to particular states that they will use the nuclear factor to resolve certain problems of their own. On the contrary, the time has come to give some thought to international mechanisms that would make it politically unfavorable to have nuclear weapons on the territory of a particular state.

This is a good place to repeat that the nuclear arms reduction is the principal way of solving that problem. Which means, they should not be rebased, so that Russia's nuclear potential would be augmented at the expense of the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Byelarus, but they should be reduced on the basis of mutual consent with the other side. That principle is honored both by Russia and the United States and by our partners in the CIS. The fewer weapons there are, the easier it is to guarantee their complete control.

[NOVOSTI] Business circles in the West are at present still not taking the risk of entering into major investments in the Russian economy, alluding to the absence of firm legal guarantees of the Russian federation.

[Yeltsin] I understand that kind of concern. Foreign investors, and for that matter Russian investors as well, rightly speak of the need for greater protection of their legitimate interests, above all against the instability of current legislation. The legal foundation as it stands today does not for the present afford legal guarantees to foreign investors, because a number of mutually exclusive instructions and rules are in effect. Bureaucratic distortion of the present legislation and also the arbitrariness of the bureaucrats are also very harmful. Of course, it is not possible to surmount all of that in a short time, but we have begun to work in that direction.

The fundamental question for us is maximum development of private ownership in Russia, including ownership of land. It needs to be stated openly that there is great resistance to this, but I am convinced that achievement of that task is not far off.

[NOVOSTI] Can we speak about any style of Yeltsin as president? Has your character, the principles of your way of life, changed during this year of your presidency?

[Yeltsin] Our press is also extensively concerned with the questions you have put to me. Much is being written about the president's style, about his virtues and faults. Probably the view is better from the side. But I cannot agree with everything that is being written.

For example, it is often said that Yeltsin is unpredictable. This is usually supported by references to particular decisions said to have been made unexpectedly, without thorough examination, without analysis of the consequences, and so on. I do not think that that is the case. Every ukase and every order of the president is thoroughly prepared. Dozens of people, government departments take part in the work on them, and they do so independently of one another. Quite often several proposals are prepared. Of course, I do not immediately sign the particular document, but the utter complexity of the situation in Russia must also be borne in mind. To be honest, mistakes do occur. But it is far easier to correct them under present conditions. There are people working in the government and in the presidential structures who are not afraid to express their own opinion and defend it. I consider that to be optimum practice.

Nor does the parliament permit laxity. The Constitutional Court is in operation, and that is another real counterbalance to presidential power.

We are under the constant control of a "fourth" authority as well—the mass media. Literally, every step the president takes is followed through a magnifying glass. Generally speaking, therefore, I look calmly on this, although sometimes I sense that certain articles are prejudiced and sometimes even superficial.

But if you want to know my opinion about unpredictability, it is this: Every politician, especially if he is operating under conditions of a crisis and fundamental changes, must reject stereotypes and set formulas. A nonstandard situation calls for nonstandard solutions, maximum flexibility. You can call that unpredictability if you like, although I do not consider that the most apt term.

As for style as a whole, it has, of course been changing. At one time, back when I was working in Sverdlovsk Oblast, and also on the Moscow City Committee, there was talk about Yeltsin's severe authoritarian style. There was some truth in that. In the years when I was out of favor, and indeed after my return to high-level politics, much of that was cast aside and left behind in the past. Many new things have been learned, but I am also trying today to preserve what I consider extremely important to my work: always to be in good form, to make a maximum effort to "get to the heart" of the problem, to find subtle and clear solutions. I consider it fundamentally important to be in constant contact with experts, to employ people who have the best understanding of the particular problem.

Of course, this year has been a special one. There has been almost nothing in it except strenuous work. I nevertheless feel that it has been used to the maximum. Dissatisfaction does exist, nor is it small, above all because of the course of the reform. Life is now subordinated solely to that, to approaching more closely real results of the transformations in Russia. Everything else is secondary.

Khasbulatov on Ideas To Improve Reform Program

LD0807161392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1448 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—"The programme of boosting reforms is necessary. If the government fails, the parliament will work out its own variant and will oblige the government to fulfil it", Russian Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov said on Wednesday [8 July] at a meeting with leading economists.

The governmental programme of further reforms needs to be improved both in its conceptual and methodological aspects, according to Khasbulatov.

The situation in the national economy can be taken under control and the parliament plans to be more active in the field and strictly control the implementation of reforms, he added.

Shumeyko Signs Ordinance To Reorganize Cabinet

PM0807101192 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 4 Jul 92 p 2

[INTERFAX report under the "Administration" rubric: "Cabinet Apparatus Reorganized"]

[Text] Vladimir Shumeyko, first deputy chairman of the Russian Government, has issued an ordinance on the reorganization of the Cabinet apparatus. It has been decided to abolish eight departments as well as the secretariats of former first Vice Premier G. Burbulis and former deputy head of the cabinet S. Shakhray. In addition, the Government's Methodology and Organization Sector has been reduced. The ordinance also gives legal status to the secretariats of the recently appointed four new vice premiers—B. Saltykov, G. Khizha, V. Chernomydrin, and A. Chubays. Five new departments have been created on the basis of the eight abolished ones.

Trade Officials Dismissed; Aides Under Review

PM0807131292 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Jul 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Official Section" rubric: "Relieved of Office"]

[Text] By a decree of the Russian Federation president, a number of leaders of the Russian Federation Ministry of Trade and Material Resources Trade Committee have been relieved of their posts, the document says, for failing to take proper steps to fulfill the RSFSR Law "On Competition and the Limitation of Monopolist Activity on the Commodity Markets" and the president's Decree "On Combating Corruption in the State Service System," and for committing actions promoting abuses by leadership workers on the Trade Committee.

A.F. Khlystov is relieved of the post of chairman of the Russian Federation Ministry of Trade and Material Resources Trade Committee and Russian Federation deputy minister of trade and material resources. The Russian Federation Government is instructed to resolve the question of relieving V.A. Kozlov and V.Ye. Tikhonov, deputy chairmen of the Russian Federation Ministry of Trade and Material Resources Trade Committee, of their posts for violating the RSFSR Law "On Competition and the Limitation of Monopolist Activity on the Commodity Markets" and the Decree on Combating Corruption.

Customs Duties Decision Spurs Oil Exploitation

LD0907024392 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] According to our Arkhangelsk correspondent, Russian Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar has given a new start in life to exploitation of an oil deposit in the northern part of the Timano-Pechorskiy basin by signing a decision on reducing customs duty on oil exports from this region. Activities of oil companies in this region saw little profit until now due to high customs tariffs and the climatic conditions which make work difficult.

'Everyone' To Be 'Property Owner' This Year

PM0307124592 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 92 p 2

[Report by Valentina Nikiforova: "Chubays in a Hurry"]

[Text] Recently the chairman of the State Committee for Property—Vice Premier A. Chubays—held a news conference to announce the government program of total privatization. True, he called it the people's program.

"Everyone, from babe-in-arms to the oldest, will become a property owner as early as this year!" Anatoliy Borisovich announced.

There was another weighty cause for celebration, as he went on to explain: The communist group in parliament, which had campaigned against this program, had suffered defeat. The Russian Supreme Soviet supports the privatization program 100 percent....

So what sort of program is being offered to the people?

Three schemes are being proposed for the privatization of enterprises. The first envisages allocating to labor collectives 25 percent of shares for free, on a preferential, but "nonvoting" basis—that is, not giving the right to participate in the control and management of the enterprises—and the right to acquire a further 10 percent of shares on preferential terms. Five percent of the "voting" shares will be assigned to the administration. According to the second plan, the collective is allocated up to 50 percent of the shares—without competition, at a fixed price.

The third plan is of a special kind. It proposes that the collective nominate a group of persons ready to put down security and to assume responsibility for the development of production. A contract would be concluded with these people for one year. If their commitments were fulfilled, the group would receive the right to 20 percent of the "voting" shares.

But, judging by the inertia of enterprise directors and the indifference and laziness of collectives, privatization will most probably go ahead according to the first scheme, A. Chubays lamented. The government will allow no deviations from its program. After all, it is a question of a unique mass privatization program of a sort never before undertaken in any country!

Privatization accounts will be opened for the population. The vice premier promised that we will have millions of property owners, and let them worry about their own capital. How large will each person's property be? A. Chubays magnanimously promised: You will find out everything soon; the government does not intend to hide anything.

But perhaps it should consult the people? It is their property, after all. There is no time! The "team" is in a hurry.

"We are happy to announce that we have received the full support of parliament!" A. Chubays informed journalists.

True, the law on privatization has not yet been adopted or ratified by the Supreme Soviet. And who knows how deputies will behave in the final analysis.

Chubays Appoints European Banker as Adviser

OW0807195092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1814 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Interfax Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Mr. Anatoliy Chubays, chairman of the Russian Goskomimuschestvo (the body in charge of state property), told "IF" [INTERFAX] that Gerard De Geer was appointed adviser to the vice prime minister.

Mr. De Geer had previously worked as chairman and executive director of the investment company Scandinaviska Enskilda Banken, and chairman of the Banque Scandinave en Suisse (Geneva).

Mr. Chubays said his new adviser will help develop a plan to attract foreign investment and establish direct contacts with foreign investors and bankers.

Defense, Security Ministries Deny Coup Rumors

LD0807121692 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Russian Ministry of Defense and Security declared today that it did not plan an antidemocratic coup in the country and that it is not planning one now. The briefing was held in response to repeated reports in the mass media about the disloyalty of the so-called law enforcement structures, which include the Army and security services, to the present authorities. Quite the contrary is the case. According to sociological research carried out among Ministry of Security staff, 73 percent serve the people and 78 percent of those polled serve the cause of rehabilitating the collapsed fatherland. Rumors about a coup are being aired in order to discredit the enforcement structures and to achieve the political aims of certain individuals and those behind them.

Those working in the Ministry of Security, it was stated at the briefing, are far from being naive. They are well aware what sort of individuals these are and that they come from both the extreme right wing and extreme left wing. The speakers, however, declined to name them. There are many of them, the Ministry of Security spokesman said, and you yourselves know who we are talking about.

Result of 'Warped' Awareness

LD0807143492 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1210 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] A joint briefing was held by the Ministries of Security and Defense at the Russian Foreign Ministry press center today. Anatoliy Fedorov, our correspondent, was at the briefing. Here is the account he prepared:

[Fedorov] The necessity for holding this meeting was caused by the fact that, of the top priority bits of information that have struck its consumers—namely us, and we were struck dumb, especially in the last few days—the prediction of a coup in Russia, in the immediate future at that, has become the most sensational and the most widely publicized. What we have here is either some sort of planned action, designed to engender instability and even hysteria among the population, or a result of a warped public awareness to which some of our politicians have fallen prey—and rather seriously, too.

The structures that wield power—the Ministry of Security and the Defense Ministry—are the target of all this. Here is how Andrey Chernenko, head of the Public Relations Center of the Ministry of Security, commented on the situation:

[Begin Chernenko recording] We have sufficiently incontrovertible, firm, and also specific data that a planned campaign to compromise our state institutions and a number of those institutions' leaders will begin—it has, in fact, already begun. In our view, the purpose of all this is to unseat professionals who have been properly tried and tested in a complicated political situation.

Moreover, plans of this kind are put into effect, as we say, to use journalistic terminology, both in the milieu of democrats and in the milieu of those politicized structures that are diametrically opposed to them. Currently, attempts are under way to involve Russia's structures at all costs in political games and to make them resolve the political and social problems unequivocally, using force or, to put it more concisely, to bring the mechanisms of repression into play.

It does not matter from where these power-hungry people come; nor is this sort of outcome superfluous, because repressive policies discredit with the speed of lightning not just Russia's power- wielding structures themselves, but also its leadership. [end recording]

[Fedorov] There were many questions concerning the position of the Army in various hotspots in the CIS and the latest statements by General Lebed, commander of the 14th Army. There was also this question: a great number of construction battalions are deployed in Russia. Many people from the East and the Transcaucasus are there. They resemble guerrillas. Does not the Defense Ministry think that they could start a rebellion in August? General Staff spokesman General Gulko replies:

[Begin Gulko recording] People of Caucasian nationality are barely in a majority there. Servicemen from Central Asia and from the central regions of Russia make up a significant proportion. Can they get a rebellion off the ground? I don't think so. They are keeping busy. As a rule, all of them are at construction sites throughout the working day; they are working. They do not have arms on their off days or on leave and surely it is a complicated matter to stage rebellions now if all you have is a spade. [end recording]

[Fedorov] In terms of its importance, the Ministry of Security—like the Ministry of Defense—is supposed to know everything. But this someone, who is endeavoring to throw the Ministry of Security and the Ministry of Defense to the people, as though one might throw a dog a bone, and cast aspersions on them—well, is the Ministry of Security aware of the identity of this mysterious person? If so, then let us put it this way: has this someone been officially warned about his activities? In essence, he is acting in a provocative manner.

[Begin Gulko recording] I think that we are here dealing not just with one person and not necessarily with a person who has certain mutual connections. The purpose of our briefing today, to a certain extent, is to indicate the fact that we understand a great deal. Let me be like that leader who said: You know yourself who we are talking about. [end recording]

[Fedorov] Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev recently criticized the Ministry of Security. A very emotional question from a Voice of America correspondent attracted a no less emotional reply.

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker] Personally, we have no grievances at all as far as Comrade Kozyrev is concerned. The whole question revolves around the position he expressed—we have simply clarified that. [end recording]

Local Disturbances Possible

LD0807134292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1210 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow, 8 Jul (TASS)—"The Russian Security Ministry does not have any information to the effect that an antidemocratic coup is being plotted, although local disturbances related to the current situation are possible." This statement was made by representatives of the Russian Security and Defense Ministries at a joint briefing. It was held at the Foreign Ministry Press Center.

The participants of the briefing—representatives of the Defense Ministry, including Lieutenant General Aleksey Gulko and Major Gen. Valeriy Chirvin; and representatives of the Security Ministry, who are Vladimir Bondarenko, Ksenofont Ippolitov, Andrey Chernenko and Aleksandr Gurov—denied the statement which appeared in the press to the effect that the structures responsible for the Russian forces, as these departments were described, are trying to set in motion the "repressive mechanism."

In this connection a recent statement by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev in IZVESTIYA was mentioned. Ksenofont Ippolitov, head of the information and analysis directorate of the Security Ministry said that Andrey Kozyrev expressed his personal view, while the Security Ministry has expressed its own opinion, and if there are differences in the positions of the Foreign Ministry and the Security Ministry, these are just "unavoidable overheads." However, he stressed that the Russian security bodies do not intend to be "underdogs" and did not want to be "hostages to political games."

The Russian and foreign journalists, as well as leaders of the Russian political parties and movements attending the briefing, were interested in the reaction of the Defense Ministry representatives to the statement made by Maj. Gen. Aleksandr Lebed on the Dniester region conflict and to the link between the statement and talks on the presence of the so-called "party of war" in Russia's political circles.

However, Lt. Gen. Gulko decided not to disclose the Defense Ministry's attitude to the commander's statement, having said at the same time that "Aleksandr Lebed is a patriot of his motherland, a patriot of Russia, and that his position finds understanding among officers of the 14th Army."

Answering a question by an ITAR-TASS correspondent on whether it is possible that weapons, which are currently handed over officially, sold, or seized in units and formations stationed outside Russia and transferred to the Russian jurisdiction, may be used tomorrow against Russians in mentioned "local hot spots," Lt. Gen. Aleksey Gulko did not rule out such a possibility. Ksenofont Ippolitov said that the Ministry of Security is taking steps to prevent various commercial structures from selling weapons from Russia.

State Security Official on New Draft Law

OW0807095692 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 30 Jun 92

[Studio interview with State Security General Aleksandr Gurov, member of the Russian Supreme Soviet and first deputy chief of the State Security Public Relations Center, by Aleksandr Goryanov; from the "Utro" program—live]

[Text] [Goryanov] As I promised you, we have a very, very interesting guest on our program. He is State Security General Aleksandr Gurov, a member of the Russian Supreme Soviet and first deputy chief of the State Security Public Relations Center. Aleksandr Ivanovich, I have the following question for you: As far as I know, the Law on State Security is being adopted tomorrow; what is it, and does it mean that the organs of state security have been operating outside the law up until now?

[Gurov] No, not quite. We were not working outside the law. We operated under a temporary provision, using existing laws that did not contradict Russian legislation. Primarily, however, to exaggerate a little, yes, we were operating outside the law, because there is no law on federal security. The law is to be discussed tomorrow, and, incidentally, an interesting metamorphosis occurred with this law. This law was prepared over a long period by the Ministry of Security, scientific research institutes, and a corps of deputies. It has gone through extensive expert evaluations. In other words, the law itself turned out very well, and I would even say it is a unique law, absorbing experience, wisdom, and contemporaneousness all in one. Well, about a week ago, perhaps a little longer, it was being discussed at the Council of the Republic and the Council of Nationalities. In the Council of the Republic it passed, shall we say, with flying colors. It was also approved in the Council of Nationalities, although there were some words of disagreement. Then suddenly, during the vote in the Council of Nationalities, it failed to pass. This was nonsense, of course, and there is a lot of talk about it at present. It is reasonable to consider that here again there are some kind of underlying political causes and intrigues, although I do not think that there are any politics involved. In my view, simply some technical mistake has occurred. In the first place, not all the deputies were present, which also influenced it to some degree. I think that the issue you have raised is a very serious one. Under these really very difficult conditions for Russia, we must work within the framework of the law and not allow even one iota of deviation from the norm of legality. In this regard, this law is indispensable to us and that is why tomorrow it will be discussed. I think every deputy must be aware in adopting this legislation, and, I think, a roll call vote should be conducted so that every...

[Goryanov, interrupting] Aleksandr Ivanovich, you may be a member of the Supreme Soviet, but let us not exert pressure on anyone. I am sure the legislation will pass.

[Gurov] I am not exerting pressure, really. This is a very serious legislation because we must not allow any breaches of law.

[Goryanov] Tell me, please, who currently controls the organs of state security, and are they indeed controlling them?

[Gurov] In contrast to the former KGB which, in general, was not controlled by anyone—the control that was exercised by the party's Central Committee could scarcely be called control because specialists and independent experts are required here—well, today the situation has fundamentally changed and, I would say, now there is a triple control. The first form of control is the Procurator, which is contained in the Law on Operational Investigation Activity. The second form of control I would consider the most important—that is, parliamentary control. A parliamentary group has been formed to control operational innvestigation activity, and it consists of high-class specialists who have signed undertakings not to write memoirs upon leaving the corps of deputies, because that would clash with the issue of state secrets. Such a review has just been completed and has not yet been voted on, and the results will be presented in the Supreme Soviet. Also, there is a third form of control of which few people suspect its existence. If you want, I could tell you about it.

[Goryanov] Yes, that would be very interesting.

[Gurov] These are my own observations, my own subjective opinions. Obviously this reflects the moment when, for a protracted time, I worked at the institute. The fact of the matter is that now that we are departicized—that is, we do not belong to any party; officially this is fact—it has become easier to work. It is also correct, however, that no one will forbid anyone to sympathize with some party or some movement. We are all living people, and this is where the third form of control exists. That is to say, if before the party Social Committee said something and we all agreed, then today, generally, we must carry out the letter of the law. If I, relatively speaking, can see that the law is being breached for the benefit of some party—we have more than 70 of them at present—then, naturally, I would report it to someone or other. So, there is internal control—a sort of a secret control, so to speak.

[Goryanov] On the one hand, it seems to me to be wonderful, but on the other hand, it seems to me that state security bodies must, first of all, sympathize with our state...

[Gurov, interrupting] Undoubtedly, undoubtedly.

[Goryanov] Also, in this regard I have this question for you: How is the scale of the State Security's work determined, if today it is difficult even to define the scale of our borders? Where indeed are our borders?

[Gurov] We held a briefing not long ago devoted to border troops and the borders of Russia, and there this issue was addressed quite seriously. We have now created our own Russian Border Service. The most curious thing is that many simply consider that all states should have borders, but some believe—as I have discovered among the press corps—that Russia for some reason should not. No, Russia as a sovereign state must undoubtedly have it's own borders. What sort of borders these must be is another issue. Now, there is the term of the transparent border—a new term. Naturally, in terms of those republics with which we have established brotherly relations, undoubtedly there will not be formal barriers. There will be some control points, however. The Baltic borders will adopt the form of those expected in international practice. This is certain because they are completely different states. But to answer your question about the scale of activity by the Ministry of Security, the scale is huge. Just look at...

[Goryanov, interrupting] But certainly no less than what it was 10 years ago?

[Gurov] No, of course not. The main thing is that there are no ideological investigations today, the so-called Fifth Directorate, or the Z Directorate. However, our counterintelligence has remained as has our military counterintelligence. This is one of the priority directions of economic security of the state. Also, there are very many issues involved here, such as the battles against corruption, contraband, and criminal terrorism. Just look at the present spectrum of activity of today's Ministry of Security.

[Goryanov] Aleksandr Ivanovich, does it seem to you that in recent times, consciously or unconsciously, the security organs have sustained considerable losses.

[Gurov] Not only does it seem to me, but it is so obvious that because of the notorious Z Directorate, the so-called Fifth Directorate, which as I mentioned concerned itself with political investigations, ideological investigations to be more precise, the security organs have sustained great losses. First of all, these are moral losses, because even though we are not successors to the former KGB, nonetheless, the burden of 1937, in terms of morality, lies on the shoulders of the today's workers, who are from time to time blamed without proof for sins that could be attributed entirely to other officials, as well as to the KGB.

[Goryanov] Aleksandr Ivanovich, another question: I have often seen you on television, in the news, and in the publicist studio programs, and I have read much about you. You were engaged in real practical work in the MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] organs. Tell me, when you changed to the Ministry of Security, were there psychological differences in your methods or approaches in carrying out your official duties?

[Gurov] You seem to have asked two questions here. Undoubtedly, there is a psychological difference between the Ministry of Security worker, or the former KGB, and the militia worker. The psychology was formed in accordance with problems and functions. The psychology was formed from whatever traditions existed, and the psychology was influenced by the then contingent that was there. Of course, this contingent was entirely different to the one in the militia, even in their intellectual capabilities, but it also naturally differed in the methods of work, because the work was mainly gathering information. In the militia organs there is a term which is not quite digestible, but I will say it anyway: to work on the hop [rabota na khapok]. That is, acting on information immediately after it has been received, because hooliganism, a murder, or a robbery has just occurred and one must act quickly on the information, and, in turn, make contact with the criminal elements, and the definite professional deformation [as heard]. While in the KGB organs—I have come in contact with the boys—they were quite different people in their culture and behavior. This is not necessarily a negative trait, and more likely a positive one, and it is tied to, first of all, the character of the activity, the job.

[Goryanov] You are well-known in the country as a leading specialist, an expert, in the battle against organized crime. Tell me please: How terrible is the effect of crime on the conduct of democratic reforms in our country, economic...

[Gurov, interrupting] I understood you. I have repeatedly written and spoken about this: that organized crime is, first of all, dangerous to the present democratic transformations. Democratic transformation depends on the economic condition of society, and if today some banks, let us say, in the capital and the major cities are controlled by the Mafia, then you must forgive me if...

[Goryanov, interrupting] Are there any concrete examples?

[Gurov] There are examples; there are even concrete criminal matters. This phenomenon is by no means abnormal. If today, our property, strategic raw materials, historical and cultural artifacts, and so on are being exported with the aid of Mafia structures, under license or without, or under licenses obtained in an illegal or devious manner, then is this not an abnormal phenomenon?

I am not talking about the corruption which is going on in our authority structures and which is furthered not only by the officials themselves, but also by the Mafia which inserts its own people. And what is more, there is now completely real information—it has even been discussed on television by a Leningrad colleague—that the Mafia is preparing its people in institutes...

[Goryanov interrupts] What are you saying!

[Gurov] Yes, this is quite true, so that later they can work and help them to realize their plans. That is where the danger to the public lies in this phenomenon.

[Goryanov] Aleksandr Ivanovich, I have a personal question for you, a very brief one, if I may. Do you not think that by transferring from this practical work to a State Security post of deputy chief of the Public Relations Center, that somehow, you have retired to an honorary exile?

[Gurov] As they say, this question is interesting. I do not think it is an honorary exile. I have found a lot of interesting things here for myself. I think that the main thing is to enrich my knowledge and to bring—let me not boast about it—some kind of benefit. And we are being of benefit in the Public Relations Center even by briefings and announcements that we make. I have given you an example previously, about the strategic raw materials, about the supposed radiation leaks, the brain drain, and so on, which is fact. Such announcements were made.

[Goryanov] I have another question for you. In my hands I have the IZVESTIYA newspaper which contains the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Andrey Kozyrev's statement, which...

[Gurov interrupts] Yes, I have read it.

[Goryanov] ... yes, who has directly stated that—I will say it as we usually do—that supposedly, State Security is preparing a new mutiny, and is disinforming [word indistinct due to Gurov's cough] in this regard.

[Gurov] That is not quite what he said. He announced it as if it was a sensational announcement, but further this is what it says: He accuses the State Security organs of, supposedly, informing the government and the president about national conflicts in a biased fashion. I must reject this, and unfortunately, at ministerial level he should have found the time and reinforced his thoughts as to how this manifested itself. But, again I say, unfortunately I have not found any evidence of it here, and I must say that State Security organs give a most objective picture, and of course, as a deputy, I cannot reveal the reason why, for example, Minister Kozyrev suddenly accuses the Ministry of Security organs of passing information in a biased fashion. But in the subtext one can read that if there was normal information, then events in Dniester would not have occurred. Let us talk honestly about these things, that is, behind this there is some kind of political game. Now, that is why I and my colleagues do not want to be drawn into some kind of political conflict, and so on. Minister Barannikov demands maximum objectivity from us. The fact that this man has been tested by the putsch and appointed by the president to this post suggests that the Ministry of Security cannot disinform the president and the government...it simply cannot. And I consider that this unsubstantiated accusation against the Ministry of Security has a certain reason behind it.

[Goryanov] Aleksandr Ivanovich, let us hope that this is so; and my last question: How close is your collaboration with the security services of the former Union republics, the present CIS countries?

[Gurov] In principle, the work is being carried out, but the situation is deteriorating daily. And with the individual republics, let us say, Byelarus and some other individual republics, we have agreed systems. That is, we conclude bilateral agreements the same way as with other countries, and act within the conditions of the bilateral agreements. But here there are many problems, for example, problems with procedures for the transfer of criminals, problems could arise with carrying out operational investigation measures on the territory of another state, or through instructions. That is why it is necessary that this law be adopted, even if it is only here. But, to take it further, perhaps we will have a necessity for laws on an international level concerning the CIS countries, or at least sign internal conventions on extradition of criminals. At least that should be done in the first instance, because the work is becoming more and more complicated.

[Goryanov] Let us hope that this will be so, thank you Aleksandr Ivanovich for coming to the studio at such an early hour, and I remind honored viewers that our guest in the studio was Aleksandr Ivanovich Gurov, member of the Russian Supreme Soviet and first deputy chief of the State Security Public Relations Center.

Commission Remarks on KGB, CPSU Archives

LD0807143992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1236 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—In connection with the publication in Russian and foreign press of materials allegedly based on documents from the archives of the former CPSU Central Committee and the KGB of the USSR, a special commission on archives under the Russian president issued a statement today. It says that "the press makes use of either typical fabrications or distorted texts of documents, which essentially and intentionally change their contents." Engaged in these operations "for political purposes are some former officials of the CPSU Central Committee and the KGB of the USSR, who have access to classified materials of these organisations. The commission views such actions as an obvious aspiration to discredit Russia's foreign and domestic policy," the statement stresses.

The commission on archives under the Russian president states that the "publication of similar 'documents' from the archives of the former CPSU Central Committee and the KGB of the USSR, not submitted officially to news media, from now on should be regarded as deliberate falsification having nothing to do with original documents."

New Bloc 'Counterweight' to 'Civic Union'

PM0807115992 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 4 Jul 92 p 1

[Andrey Kolesnikov report under the "Politics" rubric: "Party of Support Formed"]

[Text] A new political bloc of supporters of reform was formed today. The "party of support," which radical democrats spoke of during the President's meetings with parliamentary factions preceding the Sixth Congress of People's Deputies, has finally been organized.

The contour map of political forces now acquires quite specific colors and "flesh and blood." It is obvious that a leftwing opposition has not been formed: The "party of support" cannot be called an opposition force. Its creation is linked with the need to find an equal counterweight to the so-called constructive opposition and the centrists in the form of the "Civic Union." Of course, there will be no points of contact between the bloc of reform supporters and the rightwing opposition except the radicalism of their views and actions.

The process of political demarcation is complete. What is in prospect now is probably a sharpening of political struggle. In this situation the "party of support" will most likely play the role of a "pressure party" influencing the president and the government and, at the same time, ensuring that there are no representatives of the directorate, the military-industrial complex, and politicians close to "Civic Union" within government structures.

It cannot be ruled out that the new bloc will take an unduly hard line toward the centrists, which will complicate the dialogue between Yeltsin and Gaydar and their lobby in the government and thereby destabilize an already highly explosive political situation in the Russian hierarchy.

Radical Democrats Defend Gaydar

MK0807103592 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 7 Jul 92 p 2

[Vladimir Todres report under the "Democrats" rubric: "'Civic Union' Has Cast a Shadow. Radical Democrats Have Created an Alternative to It"]

[Text] Democrats of a radical tendency tried once again to unite in Moscow's Parliamentary Center on Saturday 4 July. The aim of the new bloc is, first, to create a broad front of opposition to the fascist danger and, second, to defend Gaydar's team and its policy both against this danger and against an "onslaught by directors."

The democratic gathering, which brought together approximately 2,000 participants, was the second attempt to create a "broad pro-Gaydar coalition" since the April Assembly of Citizens of the Russian Federation. The first attempt failed: Supporters of a radical reforming approach were unable to find a common language with the advocates of a gradual approach from the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs headed by Arkadiy Volskiy, the Democratic Party of Russia, and the People's Party of Free Russia (see NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA No. 67), who a little later put together their own—now celebrated—"Civic Union." As Gavriil Popov emphasized Friday [3 July], the present bloc "will champion not the nomenklatura-apparatus nature of reform but its popular-democratic nature."

The spectrum of those who supported the idea of a new alliance is surprisingly wide: In it the People's Patriotic Party (the "afgantsy party") coexists with guilds of merchants and entrepreneurs, while Galina Starovoytova and Sergey Yushenkov coexist with Gavriil Popov and Konstantin Borovoy. To all appearances, each participant has his own views on the alliance which is being created and his own complaints against the plans for "directorial reform."

The predominant sentiments, however, are determined by "Democratic Russia," which obviously regards the new bloc as one more (and seemingly the last) opportunity to come back to life.

Despite the abundance of status figures (ranging from former Mayor Popov to Vice Speaker Filatov, Foreign Minister Kozyrev, and State Secretary Burbulis, who read out Yeltsin's greetings message), the central figures at the gathering turned out to be Acting Premier Yegor Gaydar and Economics Minister Andrey Nechayev. Gaydar reported that the government had foreseen the present complexities—the slump in production, the problems of employment, inflation—right from the start. According to him, the fall in production will continue for the next two years and can be halted in 1994-1995. During this time, however, the government, if it survives, can carry out large-scale privatization ("by the end of 1993 we can have virtually privatized trade and public catering, while privatization of industry has already been started up by our program") and conquer inflation ("by the end of 1992 we are reckoning on securing a reduction in the rate of inflation to 9 percent a month, and in 1993 to 3 percent a month"). Gaydar and Nechayev promised to make every effort to prevent hyperinflation: Its economic consequence would be the total paralysis of all commodity flows, and its political consequence would be the establishment of a fascist regime.

The subject of a "fascist offensive" in general turned out to be the leitmotiv of the whole gathering and was reflected in a special resolution. Andrey Kozyrev called for "a continuous war against the red and brown plague," while Supreme Soviet Member Viktor Sheynis remarked that "the water is already coming up to our necks" and emphasized that the new bloc "does not regard the 'Civic Union' as political opponents: Everyone must unite in the face of the approaching danger."

The "unifying weekend" is obviously advantageous to all the contracting parties. Gaydar's team, which is living through not its brightest days (in the lobby Andrey Nechayev complained not so much about the demonstrations by "intransigents" as about pressure from "directors" within the cabinet of ministers itself), is glad of any support now. The slightly fading democratic movement has, in turn, gotten a new incentive to think about the future, while the "new politicians" like Konstantin Borovoy have gotten a new reason to appear in public.

But the prospects for the bloc, the declaration on whose creation must be signed, by those wishing to do so, within 10 days, are not particularly clear even to its organizers themselves. Sergey Yushenkov believes that the new force will engage in "defending Gaydar in parliament and propagandizing his ideas in the provinces." But in order to activate the reformers in the Supreme Soviet it is hardly necessary to create a nationwide movement, and it is somewhat more complex to disseminate the unpopular ideas of economic liberalism in "out-of-the-way places" than to agitate "for Yeltsin and against Gorbachev"—in which "Democratic Russia" was successful during its better years. Igor Yakovenko, cochairman of the Republican Party, believes that "the most that can be gotten out of the Supreme Soviet is that it does not hinder us. The legal space must be formed by the decrees of the president, whom we must influence. We are creating not a 'party of power' but an independent poltical force. We are lobbyists for the Russian people."

As observers point out, however, who is to become the real "government [pripravitelstvennyy] party"—the new bloc or the "Civic Union"—will be decided not by their own activeness but by the way things are finally sorted out between the "directors" and the "liberals" in the president's reception room.

Radical Democrats Call For Apparatchiks Removal

MK0807114192 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 7 Jul 92 p 2

[Ye. T. report: "Radical Democrats Demand Purge"]

[Text] The parliamentary faction of the Radical Democrats has issued an appeal entitled "Summer—The Season of Putsches" in which a law banning former party apparatchiks from occupying state posts is acknowledged to be the sole defense against future coups. "It is not desirable to have a chronic alcoholic working in a liquor distillery, and a sex maniac ought not to be a school teacher"—of that the authors of the statement are convinced.

Unionists Form Assembly for Social Partnership

OW0807181792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1539 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A Russian assembly of social partnership was opened in Moscow on Wednesday [8 July]. About 400 representatives of the trade unions and unities of businessmen take part in this assembly. Addressing the assembly, the chairman of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions' council Igor Klochkov noted that a tripartite commission formed by the government, businessmen, and trade unions to solve social conflicts failed to fulfil its functions. According to Klochkov, the practice has demonstrated that "the commission was unable to adopt effective decisions, in particular, to solve problems with payment of wages and to settle the issues on solvency of enterprises".

There is an impression, Klochkov noted, that the tripartite commission "is used as a cover in conducting a tough course without considering the opinion of the trade unions".

According to Klochkov, the assembly is being created in order not to block the reforms but to create an effective mechanism of partnership as "an alternative to class struggles".

Volskiy Comments Noted

OW0807182092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1539 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The President of the Russian Union of manufacturers and businessmen, the leader of the All-Russian union "Renewal" Arkadiy Volskiy believes that resignations of Sergey Shakhray from the post of Vice Premier, of Gavriil Popov from the post of Moscow Mayor, and of Pavel Voshchanov from the post of the presidential press secretary "look rather symptomatic in the current situation". According to Volskiy, this testifies to the fact that "the ship has received a hole". He had conversations with journalists in the halls of the assembly of social partnership held in Moscow.

Volskiy did not add anything to what he said. At the same time he considers that the appointment of new people in the government, namely Vladimir Shumeyko, Viktor Chernomyrdin, and Georgiy Khizha, "vividly demonstrates the intention of the government to draw economists having experience in adopting and realizing practical decisions".

Volskiy is sure that the process of renewal in the government has not been completed yet. At present a candidate for the new post of the deputy chairman of the government on agriculture is being discussed.

Mironov Notes CFE Impact on Armed Forces

LD0907100292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1300 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunayskiy]

[Excerpt] Moscow, 8 Jul—With the coming into force of the CFE treaty, prospects are opening up for the creation of a reliable and comprehensive system of European security, based not on military might but on trust and cooperation between all the states of Europe, the United States and Canada, said Colonel General Valeriy Mironov, deputy minister of defense of Russia, assessing the significance of the CFE treaty.

He noted that from the strategic-operational point of view, the CFE treaty is one of the main factors influencing the building of the Armed Forces of Russia. It promotes the establishment of clear guidelines for the development of Russia's military principles and the setting up of its armed forces on the basis of the principle of sufficiency, taking into account qualitative parameters first and foremost.

According to the calculations of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Russia, the military commander said, the number of arms and equipment set for Russia provides for the creation and formation, within the framework of the reform under way, of compact but mobile formations while maintaining the possibility of rapid deployment of large and battleworthy groupings in case of need. [passage omitted]

Transcaucasus Commander Anticipates 'Attacks'

PM0807125792 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jul 92 p 3

[FAX News Service report, reprinted from ZAVKAZSKIYE VOYENNYE VEDOMOSTI, under the "Direct Line" rubric: "'Virtually All Combined Formations and Units of the Transcaucasus Military District Are Under Control and Ready To Operate In Any Conditions'"]

[Text] Tbilisi—This statement was delivered at a session of the Transcaucasus Military District Military Council by district commander Colonel General V. Patrikeyev.

Curiously, speaking of the results of the Dagomys meeting between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the State Council of the Republic of Georgia, Col. Gen. Patrikeyev noted: "Nevertheless, the situation in the region has reached crisis point, and could escalate at any moment into a large scale armed conflict." This would naturally complicate the life of Russian troops.

A certain statistic was disclosed at the Military Council session: In the first six months of 1992, various armed formations and bandit groups had perpetrated more than 200 attacks, as a result of which 31 servicemen had been killed and 58 wounded, and 3,875 weapons and 2,821 pieces of equipment had been seized. A number of attacks had been successfully repulsed, but any escalation of the armed struggle in the Transcaucasus will require arms and ammunition, which will undoubtedly precipitate a new wave of attacks on military facilities. For this reason, in parallel with setting tasks aimed at ensuring the combat training of troops even in such a complex situation, focusing attention on the state of military discipline and the moral and political preparation of Russian servicemen, and solving tasks on the social welfare plane, the Transcaucasus Military District commander and Military Council have requested commanders of all ranks to draw up combat plans to repulse attacks, and to regularly conduct the personnel's appropriate training. In view of the large deficiencies of manpower, each unit has been ordered to set up combined crews and fighting vehicle crews comprising officers and warrant officers. It is planned to reduce the overall number of storage facilities for weapons and munitions, while ensuring the reliable security and defense of those that remain.

Military Media Face Readjustment in Hard Times

PM0607154792 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Jul 92 p1

["Our Correspondent" report: "Military Press: How Can It Survive in Market Conditions?"]

[Text] Today the Armed Forces under Russian jurisdiction publish, in addition to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 16 military journals, the weekly SYN OTECHESTVA [Son of the Fatherland], 17 district, group, and navy newspapers, as well as army, flotilla, and large-circulation newspapers. All these publications are now united by the common, extremely difficult problems of how to survive in the conditions of a market economy, while the Russian Armed Forces are developing, when funds allocated for their upkeep are being cut back and the technical base of printing works and publishing houses is outdated and in need of renewal. The prime cost of publishing and distributing newspapers and journals is constantly increasing and the funding of the military press remains an unresolved question. There was a substantive discussion of all these issues at a meeting of the central military publications' chief editors at the Committee for Work With Personnel.

Addressing the journalists, Major General of Aviation N. Stolyarov stressed that the main aim of the coming reorganization of the military mass media is to bring their activity into line with Russian legislation and resolve all the legal, financial, and organizational questions without which the newspapers and journals' work and editorial collectives' life become impossible.

New Editor Appointed for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA

PM0807081792 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jul 92 p 1

[Unattributed report: "KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Editorial Office"]

[Text] One might consider this an event that solely concerned the editorial office, but, in our view, it is of far greater significance today. For the first time in the history of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA a civilian has been appointed as the newspaper's deputy chief editor—Yelena Aleksandrovna Agapova, who hitherto worked as a special correspondent.

Our readers are familiar with the name of Ye. Agapova from her numerous articles raising the problems of social security for servicemen and members of their families, military development, and reform of the Armed Forces. She has been working for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA for roughly 20 years. She graduated from the faculty of journalism at Moscow's M.V. Lomonosov State University. She is married to an officer.

Bringing a civilian onto the leadership of a military newspaper is in keeping with the realities of the time and the new tasks facing KRASNAYA ZVEZDA during the development of the Russian Armed Forces.

IZVESTIYA To Drop Some Local Editions

PM0207155992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 8

[Unattributed announcement "To Readers"]

[Text] For some months the IZVESTIYA editorial office and the publishing house have been receiving requests from various cities in Russia and the capitals of the Commonwealth countries where our paper is printed not to publish on Mondays. The Chisinau publishing house "Universul," for example, argues that IZVESTIYA is the only Moscow daily that comes out on Mondays. Two shops operate on Sunday to print it, which leads to extra consumption of ever more expensive electricity, water, and so on. Judging by numerous readers' complaints, the local mail is not providing same-day delivery of the Monday issue, which the editorial office prepares in Moscow on Sunday on the basis of the capital's Saturday edition, and there is no point in reading a paper that contains stale news.

For example, the Communications Ministry in Ukraine, where we have around 1 million subscribers, has introduced two days off per week for its mail staff, which effectively means that IZVESTIYA does not get delivered Mondays in Ukraine.

In view of the above, the editorial office has decided to stop publishing Saturday issues for Muscovites and Monday issues for all other readers.

Committee Set Up To Solve Harvest Problems

LD0907103792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0800 GMT 9 Jul 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A working group of officials of ministries and departments has been set up at the operational headquarters of the Russian Government for the operational solution of questions connected with the harvesting which has now begun. Vladimir Shcherbak, first deputy minister of agriculture, has been appointed head of the group, ITAR-TASS reports.

Shcherbak To Head Group

PM0807112892 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Jul 92 First Edition p 1

[ITAR-TASS report: "Time To Look After the Harvest"]

[Text] By order of the Russian Government, in order to ensure the prompt resolution of questions connected with bringing in the harvest, a working group consisting of staffers of Russian Federation ministries and departments has been set up under the Russian Federation Government operations staff for bringing in and ensuring the preservation of the 1992 harvest. V.N. Shcherbak, Russian Federation first deputy minister of agriculture, has been appointed leader of the working group.

The working group is charged with monitoring the fulfillment of the operations staff's decisions, first and foremost on questions of material and technical provision for the agro-industrial complex and deliveries of fuel and lubricants, spare parts, rubber, transport facilities, and other resources needed in order to ensure that the harvest is brought in efficiently. The working party must also submit timely reports to the operations staff on the state of affairs locally as regards harvesting, and offer concrete proposals for the staff's next session.

Operational Staff Formed

PM0707130192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 7 Jul 92 First Edition p 1

[Report by Vladimir Mikhaylov: "If You Want Bread—Pay Money"; final paragraph is footnote]

[Text] ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA has already reported that a session of the Russian Government collegium with the participation of members of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium has created an operational staff for bringing in the harvest and ensuring the safekeeping of the 1992 harvest. It has been headed by V.F. Shumeyko, first deputy chairman of the Russian Government.

"Alas, the foundations of ownership in agriculture have not yet been reviewed and market mechanisms are not in operation, so we are reluctantly having to retain some of what used to exist," Igor Trifonovich Gavrilov, adviser to the Russian vice president, says frankly. "The provision of fuel and lubricants, rail cars, motor transport, and additional manpower resources—it all requires considerable organizational efforts and our intervention. At the same time we see our main task elsewhere. What are we to do if the peasants again, as they did last year, retain some of the grain in their own granaries? Surely we should not resort again to administrative pressure or, worse, to something like requisitioning?

Purely economic approaches are difficult to find at any time and in the present situation are more complex than ever: The danger of hyperinflation hangs over us like the sword of Damocles. Nonetheless, this search is under way. In particular it has been deemed necessary fully to reimburse agricultural producers for the debts of previous years. For instance, the operational staff is seeking to ensure that farms are urgently paid the hard currency they have earned; according to rough estimates the total sum of the state debts to the peasants has reached $150 million.

In addition it is planned to earmark additional preferential credits for the countryside to the sum of 105 billion rubles and a further 60 billion for purchases of agricultural output. It looks as though this promise, unlike many previous ones, will be fulfilled. According to information in the possession of the apparatus of Russian Vice President A.V. Rutskoy, 70 billion have in practice already been handed over to the countryside. They are being issued at what are by present standards extremely low interest rates and so far primarily to the Southern regions, where the harvest usually begins. I want to hope that the Northerners, who will drive the grain combines out onto their fields only in August, will also get something.

As is well known, the agricultural producers who concluded a contract with the state for the delivery of their output are reimbursed for 50 percent of the cost of fuel. The operational staff believes that it is also expedient for the state to pay for a further proportion of transport expenditure, since the cost of shipments is increasingly sharply.

A fundamentally new element is that the staff, together with operational-tactical problems, is also seeking to resolve strategic ones. We still have only a minute number of private farmers but even those we have are not provided with the most necessary items.

It is not debates and meetings which now determine our countryside's future. It all depends on the daily organizational work, on whether the new, developing sector of the agrarian economy receives businesslike aid and full-scale state support.

It remains to be added that at the staff's next few sessions it is planned to examine the state of affairs with regard to fuel and lubricants and motor transport and also to study how debts of previous years are being paid back to agricultural producers. It is also planned to hear information on the progress of the harvest in Krasnodar and Stavropol krays, in Rostov, Volgograd, Voronezh, and Nizhniy Novgorod oblasts, and later in Ryazan and Lipetsk oblasts.

The operational staff for bringing in the harvest and ensuring the safekeeping of the 1992 harvest has been joined by the following: Valeriy Makharadze, deputy chairman of the government; Viktor Khlystun, minister of agriculture; Sergey Bogomolov, deputy chief of general staff of the Defense Ministry ground forces; Nikolay Golushko, first deputy minister of security; Anatoliy Klevtsov, deputy minister of transport; Vladimir Kolesnikov, deputy minister of fuel and energy; and also other ministry and department leaders.

Khlystun Addresses Food Procurement Problems

PM0607112192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Jul 92 First Edition p 22

[ITAR-TASS report: "Complications with Feed Procurement"]

[Text] There are fears that next winter public stockraising in a whole series of Russian oblasts will again be without a sufficient quantity of hay and cured hay. This was shown by a telephone conference with leaders of local agro-industrial associations held 1 July by Russian agriculture minister Viktor Khlystun.

The participants in the conference described the progress in feed procurement and leveled a whole series of complaints against the central organs, which are only slowly resolving problems with regard to providing agriculture with haymaking equipment, fuel and lubricants, spare parts, and other material and technical facilities. Their absence or shortage is holding back the harvest of sown and natural grasses and is leading to a harvest shortfall.

The conference revealed the poor amount of information available to people locally. They do not know that many problems have already been resolved at government level. Thus, for instance, all transport expenses for the delivery of the harvest will be reimbursed to the farms from the budget. The people invited to bring in the harvest are paid 75 percent of their salary at their main workplace. The government has also taken steps to purchase for hard currency the batteries and other equipment which are in short supply and to deliver them to the farms.

Nonetheless in a whole series of oblasts of the central, northwestern, Urals, and Siberian regions only 10 to 30 percent of the quantity of coarse feed necessary for winter has been laid in. The progress of the harvest is being delayed not only by the poor degree of technical equipping but also by the lack of organization and dilatoriness allowed by the farm leaders and specialists.

There was approval of the experience of the Tambov specialists, who have carried out repeat sowings of feed crops on an area of 30,000 hectares, expanded areas sown to corn for silage by 11,000 hectares, and added companion crops of Sudan-grass and sunflowers to the sown areas.

98 Million Tonnes Expected

LD0807135392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1314 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—According to the information of aerospace photography, the crops of grain in Russia this year may be around 98 million tonnes, Viktor Khlystun, Russian minister of agriculture, announced on Wednesday [8 July].

He addressed a two-day conference of leaders of the executive authorities of the republics that opened at the Russian Government. The participants include the Russian Federation, representatives of territories, regions and autonomous formations. They discussed measures to ensure the timely taking in of grain and farm produce in 1992.

Khlystun said that the crop of 104-108 million tonnes was initially expected. He said that 62.3 million hectares in Russia are planted to spring and winter cereal crops, including maize. Potato harvest this year will be somewhat worse than last year, although potatoes were planted on larger areas.

A problem is posed by the abrogation of special rate of the rouble against the dollar during the purchases of imported grain. The head of the administration of the Nizhny Novgorod region said that some time back, when the special rate of the rouble against the dollar was 20 to 1, a loaf of bread cost ten roubles. Now that grain will be imported at the market rate of the dollar, for instance, 120 dollars to one rouble, a loaf of bread will cost 60 roubles. First Deputy Premier of the Russian Cabinet Vladimir Shumeyko said that the state will have to subsidise the imports of grain from the state budget.

Shumeyko also declared for tough measures to prevent the uncontrolled carrying of food and raw materials out of Russia. "Estonia which does not have a single ore pit now rates fifth in the world for the export of non-ferrous metals. It is obvious that non-ferrous metals have first been taken to Estonia from Russia," he said.

Military To Help Harvest Crops This Year

LD0807145692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1414 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—Soldiers will again be used to help state farms harvest the crops this year, according to a resolution of the Russian Government. The Defence Ministry will be earmarked 130 million roubles for organising "automobile batallions" which are to "reinforce" the farmers.

The government adopted other measures to ensure complete harvest of crops. Credits on privileged terms will be granted to state, collective farms and private farmers, as well as to food industry and road carriers.

Up to 90 per cent of all fuel at the state disposal will be supplied for those engaged in the harvest.

Minister on Case for 'Harvest Campaign'

PM0307110792 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 30 Jun 92 p 1

[Sergey Gusyakov report under the "Harvest" rubric: "Mobilization 92? The Russian Government Has Set Up An 'Operational Headquarters For Carrying Out the Harvesting and Ensuring the Safekeeping of the Harvest.' Are We Preparing for Yet Another Campaign?"]

[Text] If there were no date on this document, it could very well be taken to be a circular from the not too distant past, when everything in the country was run under the watchful eye of the leading and guiding party. The peremptory tone ("immediately examine," "ensure," "enlist"), the borrowings from the vocabulary of military terminology ("set up a headquarters," "formulate operational plans"), and the imposition of personal accountability for the state of affairs at the front—all these are easily recognizable signs that yet another campaign is beginning. In spite of everything that has happened. Only this time it refers to the harvest of 92. The government's directive on measures for carrying out this year's harvest campaign is couched in precisely this style. What is this, a return to administrative-edict methods of controlling the economy or a forced tactical move to ensure that next winter is not a hungry one?

"There is no question of this being old-style 'diktat from the center'," was how Russian Deputy Agriculture Minister Aleksandr Yefremov assessed the situation. "Even if we wanted to return today to authoritarian methods of running the sector, this would be impossible. A significant number of farms have acquired a new status: Kolkhozes and sovkhozes have been transformed into joint-stock companies, collective enterprises, and associations. The new masters of the land will not tolerate interference in their activity. The measures outlined by the government have another purpose—to help farmers gather in the harvest and keep it safe using the resources which the state has at its disposal.

"In Rostov Oblast, for example, there is currently a shortage of fuel and lubricants. The unequivocal response used to be: There has been a shortfall in delivery. Today this is linked with other problems. With finance, for example. The peasant has nothing to buy gasoline and solar oil with. What is he to do? He should turn to the Ministry of Finance through the head of the local administration and request additional budgetary appropriations. Having resolved the financial problem he should knock at the door of 'Rosnefteprodukt.' And all this takes time. The headquarters, which has brought together in one place all the state structures connected with the harvest, will resolve these issues more promptly.

"However, under no circumstances will the headquarters manage the output produced by the peasant. Where to deliver it, at what price, and in what quantity. On the contrary, it will help to sell it in the way the farmer wants to. In a way that is profitable for him. It will help with transport and credit. But, I repeat, under no circumstances will it dictate the price at which the produced output must be sold. We no longer interfere in ownership rights. The main aim of the headquarters is to safeguard the harvest, regardless of whose resource it is.

"The important thing is this. Prices for agricultural produce are free this year, they are being formed in market conditions. Therefore, the bigger the harvest, the lower prices will be. There will not be a record harvest, of course. According to our forecasts, we will gather 95-98 million tonnes of grain. But this is more than last year (89 million tonnes).

"As far as the need to set up the headquarters is concerned, I think for the time being, unfortunately, we cannot do without efforts from above. The credit and monetary situation is indeed very complex and muddled. Moreover, a significant section of rural property is still in the hands of the state. But without any doubt, this practice will clearly die out in time. The present harvesting campaign will answer definitively whether or not the food production industry needs an auxiliary organ."

Feasibility of Harvest Measures Discussed

PM0907125792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Valeriy Konovalov: "As Before 'Staff' Will Be in Charge of Harvest"]

[Text] The harvest staff created recently at the initiative of Russian Vice President A. Rutskoy has examined the question of "additional measures to ensure the prompt gathering of the harvest and the procurement of agricultural output in 1992." The draft government document prepared on the subject is strikingly similar to the joint resolutions of the CPSU Central Committee and Council of Ministers 10 years ago.

It is not only a question of the party commander vocabulary: "demanding," "enlisting," "warning of personal responsibility..." The outlined measures themselves seem to be aimed at the same economy, as though nothing had changed since then. Again there are instructions to send to the fields assault parties of state enterprise and organization workers, students, and pupils. Again sectors and enterprises are dictated to with regard to when to conclude contracts and with whom and how much output they can deliver, to whom, and within what deadlines.

There is not even a mention of the enterprises' independence, of their right to choose customers, partners, and channels of sale. For instance, this document gives the Ministry of Fuel and Energy the right to send to the harvest 90 percent of the crude oil it extracts and of the output of the oil refineries. The metallurgical enterprises and pipe plants have been ordered "to conclude contracts within a week for the delivery of rolled metal and pipes to consumers of the agro-industrial complex and to ensure by 1 September the delivery of at least 75 percent of their annual quotas and to seek out and delivery by 15 August 3,000 tonnes of welding rods."

In the same traditions substantial budget injections are envisaged in the form of various preferential credits—several hundreds of billions of rubles.

How feasible is all this today and will the budget hold out and will the now less than obedient sectors and enterprises, and indeed the harvest itself, fulfill the staff's instructions?—that, of course, is the first question.

The second is more serious. Has that much actually changed in the economy to make it possible to count on success in the harvest without orders and extraordinary measures? After all, a real market of resources has not yet formed, the monopoly of enterprises has not been eliminated and financial frenzy has not been cured....

All that is so. But on the hard and inconsistent path toward a new economy it is possible to operate using economic, market methods, which, of course, is far harder than issuing shrill orders and formidable instructions, but is more effective and realistic. An argument in favor of this is the draft of one more document—the president's decree "on mortgaging agricultural output." According to KRESTYANSKIYE VEDOMOSTI this draft has already been "sunk" three times by apparatus bureaucrats before it reached the president's desk. Yet it was planned to put it into operation back on 1 July, gearing it to the harvest and grazing. But, alas, time is passing.

Mortgaging agricultural output could create guarantees of the rural inhabitants' profitable sale of output, ensure preferential credits for peasants, but on a market, not a directive, basis, stabilize the food market through commodity intervention using accumulated foodstuffs, and weaken the monopoly of procurement workers and processors.

The mechanism of mortgage operations is simple. The procurement and processing enterprises become mortgagees appointed by the government and using state budget funds. Mortgage prices are set, guaranteeing profits for the producers. Rural commodity producers—from private farmer to agricultural firm—can become mortgagors. In accordance with quotas and contracts mortgagees immediately provide preferential credit to mortgagors, secured by produce. When the term of the mortgage expires the owner of the produce can either terminate the mortgage without returning the credit and leave the produce for the mortgagee, he can ask for an extension of the mortgage and if the mortgagee disagrees must dispose of the produce within 10 days, or he can terminate the mortgage, return the credit and interest, compensate the mortgagee for losses, and dispose of the produce as he sees fit.

There is some freedom to maneuver here. There are mutual obligations. There are guarantees of the return of credits and incentives to commodity producers and their partners.

Of course, even this decree would not resolve all problems of the rural economy. And comparing two documents is a fairly hypothetical matter. They merely give an idea of the trends which are fighting each other in our agrarian policy. Perhaps that is what is called the battle for the harvest? After all, the harvest is already beginning.

Ministry Wrestles With Problem of Grain Prices

OW0807212592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1814 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Interfax Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At the beginning of the year the Russian government promised to buy grain from the producers "at the market prices asked for at the place of purchase and at the moment of sale". But now it is forced to set a real price level. This is due, on the one hand, to the need to keep bread prices reasonable and, on the other, to the need to meet the rising expectations of producers.

GRAIN PRICES HAVE STILL NOT BEEN FIXED. In January the government announced its intention to purchase 29.1 mn. [million] tons [as received] of grain for the state reserves, which is almost a quarter more than in previous years. But preliminary contracts signed with the collective, state and private farms have so far only resulted in deals for 24.5 mn. tons, and the price levels have not yet even been fixed.

Meanwhile the producers, looking at the prices on the free market and the rapidly spiralling inflation, now want 13-20,000 rubles per ton, which is even more than the prices currently being asked at the commodity exchanges.

At this price bread in the shops will jump from the 10-12 rubles it is at present to 40 rubles, and this could cause serious social problems. The high cost of grain will also result in the complete destruction of the livestock industry, which is already becoming unprofitable.

The Russian Pricing Committee proposed buying grain at a base price of 6,800 rubles per ton so as to restore parity between industry and the grain producers to the 1991 level.

A draft government resolution, drawn up by the Committee proposes the introduction of progressive deductions from prices that are higher than the base level. Thus on the first 1000 rubles above the base price there will be a tax of 450 rubles, which will subsequently be increased in a geometric progression.

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE PROPOSES A COMPROMISE PRICE. The Ministry favours a base price of 10,000 rubles, which it intends to agree with the Bread and Bakery Products Committee. The latter is the state agency responsible for making grain purchases, which is at present orientated on the base price of 6,800 rubles as proposed by the Pricing Committee.

The Ministry of Agriculture's project proposes transferring the funds for grain purchases (in the form of credits) directly to the major end-users, who will thus be able without going through the state to agree the purchase price of grain, and furthermore pay for part of it in advance.

Experts point out that this year incentive must be given for the efficient use of grain. This means, in particular, the introduction of mortgage transaction, the leasing of grain storage facilities, and the development of markets for the sale of the product.

The Deputy Chairman of the Bread and Bakery Products Committee, Mr Yevgeniy Redkin, believes that grain losses will increase, if the farms hold back their yields. They have practically no facilities for storing the grain themselves. State storage facilities can cope with 94.8 mn. tons, but the collective and state farms have grain elevators capable of storing only 20 mn., and they have virtually no grain dryers at all.

THE GRAIN PRODUCERS CANNOT KEEP THE PRICES HIGH THIS YEAR. Experts see two scenarios possibly developing this autumn.

The collective and state farms could refuse to sell their grain at the low state prices and force the government to accept their terms and raise the purchase price to 13-20,000 rubles per ton.

But the experts are of the opinion that an attempt on the part of the producers to keep prices at this level could result in a sharp drop in demand and a fall in grain sales, and unlike last year, the producers this year are in dire need of funds.

But the Agricultural Ministry experts think that the most likely outcome will be that the average price of a ton of grain this autumn will be the "compromise" price of 8-10,000 rubles.

STATE GRAIN PURCHASES SHOULD BE CONTINUED. The Economic reform Acceleration Programme approved by the Russian government proposes an end to state orders by January 1, 1994 and the placing of the whole commodity distribution chain in private hands.

But the Chairman of the Bread and Bakery Products Committee, Mr Leonid Cheshinskiy, pointed out in an interview with Interfax, that this meant increasing the gross yield to approximately 150 mn. tons (as against the 96.4 mn. tons officially forecasted by the Ministry of Agriculture).

Committee specialists believe that if state grain orders are to be cut back, this should be done in stages, since production in Russia is unstable, and only 8% of the republic's territory is engaged in it. (For fuller details read FOOD & AGRICULTURE No 27.)

Agricultural Developments for 2-8 Jul Noted

LD0907004392

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of fileworthy reports not previously reported on agricultural developments monitored from Commonwealth of Independent States' sources from 2 to 8 July. Items are listed in chronological order by republic. Sourcelines and processing indicator follow each item.

RUSSIA:

1. By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dmitriy Vavrik: Ussuriysk (Primorskiy Territory) July 4 TASS—The agricultural production in the leading agrarian district of the Primorsk region—Ussuriysk—continues to fall, and

spendings on it to rise. In comparison with 1991 the fall in the production of main crops comprised between 20 to 60 percent. According to the chief of the agricultural directorate of the district, almost all state and collective farms have been included in the list of debtors. The "Krasnoyarskiy" state farm has already been refused credits due to its insolvency. An analogical situation prevails in other agrarian centres of Primorsk—Oktyabrskiy and Mikhailovskiy. [Text—Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0933 GMT 4 Jul 92]

2. Video report by correspondent V. Obraztsov: At the start of grain harvesting in Krasnodar Kray, the situation is being considered an emergency. Just before the harvesting and at its very outset, nature poured several months' worth of rainfall into the fields, with strong hailstorms as well. In the preceeding years, hail mainly attacked the crops in the foothill areas, but this year it affected the center of the kray, Russia's highest intensity cultivated zones. The crops were flattened fully or in part on 140,000 hectares, with about 80 percent of the grain being waterlogged in the remaining areas. [passage omitted] [video shows fields with waterlogging and widespread flattening of grain] [Excerpt—Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0500 GMT 7 Jul 92—from the "Novosti" newscast]

3. Video report by reporter Beybutov: Agricultural workers in the Republic of Dagestan have to gather the harvest from over 160,000 hectares of winter crops. Mass harvesting has begun on the Caspian Plain, shifted by nearly three weeks because of anomalous weather conditions. In the foothill areas, the harsh spring drought ruined up to 10,000 hectares of crops. Hopes are now being placed on the irrigated areas. The strange weather has also meant that the wheat has ripened at the same time as the winter crops, which is without precedent. Farmers do not have much confidence that the Russian Government's emergency measures on the harvest will correct the situation. [video shows harvesting operations in Khasavyurtovskiy Rayon, irrigation channels] [Summary—Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0500 GMT 8 Jul 92—from the "Novosti" newscast]

No fileworthy items were monitored from other CIS republics, Georgia, or the Baltic states from 2 to 8 July.

Food Prices Increase 3 Percent in Jun

PM0607152992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Dmitriy Khrapovitskiy report under the general headline: "Price Increase Over the Past Week"]

[Text] On the whole, this week's movement of stock exchange prices was very much in line with price trends in the retail trade and city markets. An analysis of Moscow Stock Exchange deals shows that for three successive weeks now prices have been increasing by 1 percent a week. Price increases in various groups of goods are showing an increasing tendency toward simultaneity. There has been a slowdown in price increases for produce from the agricultural complex—an increase of 1 percent instead of 2 percent in the previous two weeks. Meat products and concentrated feeds saw the highest price increases in the second week. Mixed feed prices are high, as is demand, but sales orders are down sharply—which will make for a sellers' diktat.

Food prices rose 3 percent over the week. Fish and fish products saw the biggest hike: pollack by 27 percent and fresh-frozen capelin by 12 percent. Canned stewed beef has gone up by 38 percent, and part-smoked sausage by 23 percent. The price of boiled sausage has fallen by 8 percent. The price of edible fats, milk products and cheese, confectionery, flour, hulled and pasta products, potatoes, and vegetables stayed practically the same as in the previous week.

However, the maximum increase—4 percent—has been recorded in the energy sources group. This is connected with the increase in the price of petroleum residues. However, as was to be expected, AI-76 grade gasoline prices remained at the previous week's level of 9,500 rubles per tonne.

Draft of Energy Policy Outlines Crisis Measures

OW0607194192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1657 GMT 6 Jul 92

[From the "Interfax Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The board of the Russian Fuel and Energy Ministry approved a draft of a new Russian energy program "Russia's Energy Policy Under New Economic Conditions". The draft, developed by the ministries of industry, fuel and energy, atomic energy, economics, and ecology, was signed by Russian Vice Prime Minister Victor Chernomyrdin, who is in charge of the republic's energy complex.

STAGE SET FOR CRISIS LONG BEFORE FALL OF SOVIET UNION. The authors of the report say that the conditions for the development of an energy crisis were set before the changes in the former Soviet Union, and were brought on by:

- the lack in the former Soviet economic system of a rational plan governing the use of energy resources. Thus, nearly 40% of all primary resources used in 1991 could have either been exported or not produced to begin with;

- the shortage of capital investment and technical resources allotted the fuel and energy complex, while increasing fuel exports and domestic usage.

CRISIS INTENSIFIED IN LAST TWO YEARS. The extraction of oil and coal fell off sharply, while natural gas extraction leveled off. In 1992 385-390 million [mln] tons [as received] of oil and gas condensate will be extracted, a figure 70-80 mln tons less than last year. This drop means serious hardship for consumers in Russia and other Commonwealth nations. It also means hard currency profits from the export of oil will be cut off as early as 1993.

The natural gas situation is also fairly serious. All possibilities to increase the extraction of natural gas have been exhausted. Unless radical steps are taken to change the situation soon the stagnation in gas extraction may be replaced by a drop in production of 10-12% in 1993.

SPECIAL MEASURES. The creators of the Russian energy program feel that the following special steps must be taken if the energy crisis is to be stopped or at least slowed by late 1992 - early 1993:

1. Introduce price reforms on energy resources to bring them up to world market levels, which includes:

- a convertible ruble at a rate of 60-80 rubles to the dollar;

- complete deregulation of prices on oil, oil products, and coal;

- indirect control of prices for oil and oil products through export duties and auctioning of export quotas and licenses;

- maintaining state regulated prices on natural gas, while bringing them (by a set rate for the ruble) to the level of gas prices in Western nations.

2. Provide government support for the creation of competitive energy complexes and financial support for the technical refurbishment of fuel and energy enterprises. To do this:

- encourage the formation of large vertically integrated amalgamations in the fuel and energy complex;

- implement the privatization of enterprises and amalgamations in the fuel and energy complex while forming public holding companies.

3. Bring domestic prices for natural gas and consumer goods up to par with world prices.

- set initial pay scales for the exploitation of resources by oil

- and gas mining enterprises;

- impose progressive taxes to remove excessive profit (30-35% over profitability) of all fuel and energy enterprises regardless of form of ownership.

OUTCOME OF EMERGENCY ANTICRISIS MEASURES. Implementing the proposed packet of anticrisis steps with the introduction of a convertible ruble, according to the minds behind the project, will not only black out the energy crisis, but will breath new financial life into the economy and strengthen the ruble. The magnitude of the ruble's course will effect the situation in the energy market. If the ruble levels off at 60 - 80 rubles per dollar, then as a result, the free market prices for oil will grow 2.5 - 3 times from those set in May (1800 - 2200 rubles a ton) and will climb to 5-6 thousand rubles a ton.

In addition, the state regulated prices on natural gas must be increased threefold in the western regions of Russia, and decreased in the Volga-Ural region and the northern Tyumen district in keeping with transportation costs. In turn, gas prices will determine prices for coal and fuel oil (in the Moscow region they will be 1.7 - 2 and 4 - 4.5 thousand rubles a ton) in all regions of Russia except eastern Siberia and the Far East.

Bringing the domestic energy prices to the world level will reduce annual expenses by 50-60 million tons while three fourths of the economy will consist of an equal share of natural gas and oil products.

In addition, 2-3 quarters after price liberalization, the decrease in oil mining should slow (in particular by reviving idled wells) and a growth should be noted in the extraction of natural gas with a slight reduction in coal extraction due to falling competitiveness.

The intensification of energy conservation and reversing the fall in the extraction of fuel will yield an additional 440-60 million tons of fuel, and an added profit of $4-4.5 billion.

Releasing the reins on fuel prices will bring more profits to the budget in a year's time in taxes and rent payments of 2 trillion rubles.

Deputy Minister on Ruble Exchange Rate

PM0607112792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Jul 92 First Edition p 2

["Topical Interview" with A.P. Vavilov, Russian Federation first deputy finance minister, by Yelizaveta Pavlova; place and date not given: "Hope of Improvement in Currency Climate?"]

[Text] There is a great deal of talk in business circles at the moment about the single ruble rate and new method of selling currency earnings to be introduced by the 1 July 1992 decree by the Russian president. In ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA on 30 June we provided material from a news conference on the changes in the work of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations in this connection. What we are addressing today is the effect of the measures on Russian citizens, who appear to be losing interest in any resolutions and decrees apart from those that have a direct bearing on their pay. Over to Andrey Petrovich Vavilov, Russian Federation first deputy finance minister.

[Pavlova] Andrey Petrovich, who prepared the decree, who was behind it?

[Vavilov] The Russian Finance Ministry was one of the initiators. How do we establish an orderly currency and finance system and what is the main lever we should seize hold of? It may sound banal—how many times have we heard it from various sources—but our every step must now be directed toward ruble convertibility. Consistently and firmly. This in fact is the aim of the recently adopted decree we are talking about.

[Pavlova] But first let us recall the storm the president's decree on forming the Republic Currency Reserve in 1992 caused among businessmen—tyros and old hands. The cry went up: "Daylight robbery." And they were right, because they were forced to surrender 40 percent of their currency at a low dollar rate in the form of a tax. This decree to some extent invalidates the previous one. Is it fairer?

[Vavilov] It is a fundamental fact that we cannot do without currency. The stabilization fund many senior officials were hoping for has not been created yet, and the promised billions have still not arrived from the United States. So market logic makes one handle one's own currency more prudently. Part of the currency earnings should indeed have been sold to the Russian Republic Currency Reserve recently. This rule is now revoked. Instead 50 percent of currency earnings from the export of goods (work, services) have to be sold through our banks at the market rate. I emphasize, at the market rate, not at the "one-half" rate, as before. That means any exporter will sell currency for any citizen.

[Pavlova] So any of us will be able to go to a bank and exchange rubles for foreign currency? But they have already promised us bureaux de change and the transformation of wooden rubles into usable hard cash.

[Vavilov] So the Finance Ministry has at last actually gotten down to the job.

[Pavlova] Our ruble only functioned as a convertible ruble when a Russian citizen intending to go abroad mounted a nocturnal vigil outside the only bank to get his $200 in exchange. But this and the so-called convertible ruble had different rates, since no one had abolished the privilege.

[Vavilov] I agree. There was a privileged rate as well as a market rate. We must have equality. That is why the decree introduces a single rate and that is why we are dealing with it now.

[Pavlova] Here is a question you may not answer, but one that interests everyone. Let us suppose the exchange process is up and running. But it may be more difficult than you think. The exchange rate could rise to an impossible height—it is over 140 [rubles to the dollar] now.

[Vavilov] Why shouldn't I answer? The exchange rate is an objective process. We do not invent anything ourselves. As you know, it reflects the relationship between domestic and world prices. If Russia does not want to go bankrupt, it will have to maintain a rate that will satisfy its currency needs.

[Pavlova] We could get credits, of course, and thus lower the rate....

[Vavilov] Yes, but no one knows what would happen tomorrow as a result.

[Pavlova] But if we had a stabilization fund—our own or one on loan—the current price of a dollar would be hard put to rise from 112 to 147 rubles, even if there was a serious panic.

[Vavilov] I am in favor of a fund, of a reserve to guarantee access to the outside world for all our citizens. And although my heart is not in credits, as long as they are not spent on purchases, but just on ruble stabilization, I am for it. You are right, without a republic reserve any panic hits hard. See, Ukraine has issued 500 billion rubles and the rate has slowed right down.

[Pavlova] So they have bought currency from us, taken it to Ukraine, and sold it there?

[Vavilov] That is so. But let me confirm once again that we will now be raising the ruble rate since it in no way reflects the price correlation.

[Pavlova] How long will it take? As an economist you know that journalists have posed this question countless times. But they will continue to ask it.

[Vavilov] By the end of the year, I think. A floating rate in the meantime. In a few months' time we will be saying: Currency exchange will take place at a fixed rate. Of course, it will be quoted by the Russian Federation Central Bank.

[Pavlova] How many banks are changing currency at the moment?

[Vavilov] Around 20 now. Each has several bureaux.

[Pavlova] What reason might a citizen have for changing currency, aside from trips abroad?

[Vavilov] Many. But the important thing is that when a fixed ruble rate is eventually established, we will no longer have cause to change it for other currencies.

Mir Cosmonauts Make 2-Hour Space Walk

LD0807212092 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2036 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Mission Control Centre July 8 TASS—Russian cosmonauts of the 11th expedition to the orbital station "Mir" walked into space on Wednesday [8 July].

Their main task on the outer surface of the orbital station was to carry out preparations for experiments with stabilizers of the system of orientation and controlling the orbital complex, which will be assembled in the "Kvant-2" module.

The exit hatch was opened by Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Kaleriy at 16:38 Moscow time [1238 GMT].

The cosmonauts exposed thermal insulation and installed an additional device on a special valve intended for land check-trials of the "Kvant-2" module, which opened the valve.

After the planned tasks had been carried out, the crew returned to the station.

Viktorenko and Kaleriy stayed in open space for a total of 2 hours and 3 minutes.

The results of a medical examination showed both cosmonauts are healthy and feel fine.

Cosmos-2196 Launched From Plesetsk

LD0907090792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0810 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow, 9 Jul (TASS)—Another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-2196, was launched from Plesetsk on 8 July by a "Molniya" carrier rocket.

The satellite is carrying scientific apparatus for continuing space research.

The satellite has been placed in a high elliptical orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution, 11 hours 47 minutes; apogee, 39,235 km; perigee, 608 km; orbital inclination, 62.8 degrees.

Besides scientific apparatus, the satellite is carrying a radio system for the precise measurement of orbital elements and a radiotelemetry system for transmitting to earth data about the work of the instruments and scientific apparatus.

The apparatus aboard the satellite is working normally.

The coordinating and computing centre is processing the incoming information.

Supreme Soviet

Deputies Call For Army Involvement in Dniester

LD0807164292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1553 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] The Russian Supreme Soviet has issued a statement on the Dniester events. Galina Vinitskaya, an ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent, has sent a report marked urgent. The Russian Supreme Soviet condemns the escalation of bloodshed in the Dniester region and recognizes that it is expedient to use the units of the Russian Army with the restricted purpose of separating the fighting sides to the point of involving CIS peacemaking forces in the actions, the statement adopted by the Russian parliament today says.

The Russian Supreme Soviet thinks that if the Dniester region were to be granted a special political and economic status within the Republic of Moldova, the participation of the Dniester representatives in negotiations on its fate and the recognition of the Dniester population's right to determine their future independently if the state status of the Republic of Moldova changes might lay the foundation for peacefully settling the conflict.

The Russian parliament states that if an agreement on ceasing military operations signed on 7 July is not implemented and if the activities of the armed forces of the Republic of Moldova in the Dniester region are not ended, it will be forced to take urgent effective measures aimed at stopping bloodshed, protecting citizens's lives, and strictly observing international pacts on human rights.

The Russian parliament also decided to suggest to President Boris Yeltsin that at the summit of CSCE states in Helsinki he should raise the issue of whether the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the CSCE process is possible when it is committing genocide against its own people.

Mironov Addresses Deputies on CFE Treaty

LD0807121592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Russian Parliament has ratified the Paris Treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe signed in November 1990 and the agreement on the order of its implementation. Deputy Defense Minister Lieutenant General Mironov gave a report on this question.

He emphasized that, despite the great reductions of troops and equipment, the treaty does not infringe the security of Russia and it promote the establishment of the new structure of its armed forces. The general also drew attention to the problems of expenditure on the destruction of weapons, and in connection with this he asked parliament to allocate further resources from the budget.

After an interval the deputies adopted a resolution on the fulfillment of international obligations in the field of chemical and bacteriological weapons, and went on to the second reading of the draft law on foreign intelligence.

Reductions Outlined

OW0807143092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1313 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From "Diplomatic Panorama": "Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe Doesn't Undermine Russia's Security"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Wednesday, July 8, Russia's parliament ratified the treaty on conventional forces in Europe signed in Paris on November 19, 1990, and the agreement on the principles and procedure of its implementation signed in Tashkent on May 15, 1992.

"The treaty can by no means be considered as a document undermining this country's security", Russia's Deputy Defence Minister Lt.-General Valeriy Mironov told the parliament. The treaty, he pointed out, draws nearer "the prospects for creating a reliable and comprehensive system of European security, based on trust and cooperation between all European countries, the USA and Canada, not on military might".

V. Mironov reaffirmed Russia's intention to build its armed forces based on the principle of "reasonable sufficiency". "Considering the present socio-political situation in the CIS, for Russia it's inexpedient and economically burdensome to maintain numerous armed forces", Russia's Deputy Defence Minister stressed.

According to him, the process of reforming the armed forces of the former USSR and building Russia's own army will take 8 years (up to 2000). By 1995 the number of troops is to be reduced from 2.8 million to 2.1 million men, and to 1.5 million by the year 2000. This fully conforms to the bill on defence adopted by Russia's parliament under which the number of Russian troops should not exceed 1% of the country's population.

According to V. Mironov, in the process of implementing the treaty "the older types of arms and military equipment will be scrapped in the first place".

"Russia acquires the status of Europe's leading state in politico-military terms", V. Mironov pointed out. Under the treaty Russia is entitled to maintain 280,600 units of weapons and military equipment: over 2.5 times more than the quantity of arms and equipment belonging to any other European country.

Besides, said V. Mironov, Russia will continue to have the opportunity to keep "powerful enough" army reserves in the areas not covered by the treaty, such as the Urals and Siberia.

Foreign Ministry Official Comments

LD0807162992 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1320 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Grigoriy Berdennikov by correspondent Lyudmila Semina at the Russian Supreme Soviet in Moscow on 8 July—recorded]

[Text] [Semina] It was underlined at the [Russian Supreme Soviet] session that it is very important that Russia ratifies this treaty.

[Berdennikov] The point is that all the NATO states and all our former Warsaw Treaty allies, and, moreover, practically all CIS states and Georgia have already ratified this treaty. Byelarus has not yet done so for technical reasons, since their Supreme Soviet is currently in recess, and the situation with regard to the ratification in Armenia is not exactly clear. All the others have ratified it. So the whole world watched whether we would ratify this exceptionally important treaty, fundamental for building the edifice of security in Europe. The fact is that this treaty is indeed laying the foundation of this edifice; it creates a sort of net that would make it impossible to concentrate arms for a sudden attack, for conducting military aggression. Besides, the treaty contains a monitoring system that cannot be circumvented. The levels that the treaty sets will undoubtedly be reached by the states; if somebody attempts to infringe them, he will be caught red-handed, as the saying goes. That is why this treaty is extremely important. The continuation of the European process as a whole depended upon its ratification by Russia.

Tomorrow the Helsinki summit begins, as you know, and if we had come to this meeting not having ratified this treaty, Russia's authority would have been considerably undermined. That is why the Supreme Soviet's decision is extremely positive and important both for our country and the whole of Europe and the world.

[Semina] You know the arguments of the opponents of the ratification of the treaty that were brought up quite often both in the parliament and in the mass media, namely that Russia was losing its military power, that we are disarming ourselves.

[Berdennikov] No, no, I would attribute all that to emotions. Russia remains the biggest military power in Europe. According to this treaty, even taking into consideration the division of arms between the heirs to the Soviet Union, Russia has 50 percent of the total number of airplanes compared with all NATO countries, for example, and about 40 percent of tanks. Therefore, our safety, in our view—which coincides completely with the opinion of the Defense Ministry—will undoubtedly be well protected and secured by those levels of arms that we will retain. As for the probability of conducting a war, as I said, it will be decreased, and our security is thereby increased.

[Semina] And the pressures on our economy will be considerably lessened.

[Berdennikov] That goes without saying. As a matter of fact, the alternative to this treaty would have amounted to a resumed arms race and military confrontation in Europe. Under the present circumstances, I really do not see how we could bear a new arms race. Therefore, this is the only correct and badly needed step in the current situation.

Resolution Adopted on Chemical, Biological Arms

LD0807132692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1244 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaisky]

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—Russian parliament on Wednesday [8 July] adopted a resolution "On Russia's international obligations on chemical and biological weapons". The resolution stipulates that Russia is USSR's legal successor in its obligations on the convention on prohibition of development, production and accumulation of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons, on bilateral agreements with the U.S.A. and in its adherence to achieving a global convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons.

The Russian Government was obliged to work out diverse programmes on the destruction of chemical weapons and present them to parliament by September 15.

Rubles Allocated for 'Scrapping'

OW0807144592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's parliament has adopted a resolution on ensuring the fulfilment of the country's international commitments in the area of chemical and biological weapons.

The document reaffirms Russia's adherence to the commitments made under the convention on banning the development, production and accumulation of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons and on scrapping them. It also reaffirms devotion to the Soviet-American agreements on control over chemical arms and their scrapping, as well as to the intention to sign a global convention on banning chemical weapons.

The Russian President is recommended to submit to the parliament draft bills on banning the development, production and accumulation of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons, and on making government officials accountable for their failure to comply with these commitments.

The parliament found it expedient to make special allocations, also in hard currency, to ensure the fulfilment of Russia's commitments in connection with chemical and biological weapons.

Russia's government is instructed to submit to the parliament before September 15 composite programs for scrapping chemical arms.

Vitaliy Vitebskiy, deputy chairman of the committee on industry and power-engineering, has said that it was decided to allocate in the current year 8 billion rubles for the scrapping of chemical and biological weapons. According to him, this will make it possible to start negotiations with Italy and Germany on the possibility of granting Russia aid in this connection. American aid has already been promised.

Law on Federal State Security Bodies Adopted

LD0807141992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1330 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Galina Vinitskaya]

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—The Russian parliament adopted a law on federal bodies of state security on Wednesday [8 July] which defines them as bodies of executive authority.

The bodies provide security for citizens, society and the state, expose and stop short subversive activities of foreign intelligence of other states, and protect the constitutional system, the sovereignty, territorial integrity and defence capability of Russia, according to the law.

Security bodies are also to fight terrorism, organised crime, corruption and drug trafficking, protect the state border. Other tasks of security bodies can be determined only by law to prevent them from becoming political police.

Security is financed by the state and controlled by the parliament and the prosecutor's office.

Law on Foreign Intelligence Adopted

LD0807135492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1318 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Aleksei Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—The Russian parliament adopted a law on foreign intelligence on Wednesday [8 July] which says that the service "is an integral part of security forces of the Russian Federation and is called to provide security for citizens, society and the state from outside threats".

Intelligence activities are carried out on the basis of law, respect of human hights and freedoms, and are controlled by and reports to the supreme bodies of legislative and executive authority.

Most heated debate in parliament was caused by an article which authorised heads of ministries and departments, public and other organisations to "render assistance to bodies of foreign intelligence". Parliamentarians voted down the article.

Kokoshin Explains New Defense Law

LD3006143892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1329 GMT 30 Jun 92

[By ITAR-TASS observer for military issues Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 30 Jun—Never before have we had a separate legislative act regulating the collaboration between state and military structures and defining the limits of their powers on defence issues. The Russian Federation law "On Defense" adopted by the parliament on 26 June fills this gap, Russian First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin stated in a conversation with the ITAR-TASS observer. Naturally, he noted, there was a whole range of laws and legal enactments in this sphere, but they were uncoordinated and burdened with numerous syndromes of past wars and those for which we were preparing and did not correspond to the level of the law-governed state which was being created.

For the first time, this document, he said, states clearly the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the president, Supreme Soviet, government, legislative and executive powers, Defense Ministry, and the General Staff in resolving defense issues. The law enshrines one of the most important axioms recognised by the entire civilized world - civilian political leadership of the armed forces.

Andrey Kokoshin said that there are plans to submit draft laws in the very near future to the Russian Supreme Soviet on the social status of servicemen, provisions for their pensions, on the defense budget, mobilization, and other matters.

In accordance with the defense law, the actual numerical strength of servicemen in the Russian armed forces during peace time must not exceed 1 percent of the total population of the federation. We will aim to reach this goal gradually, Kokoshin said, while making all the necessary efforts to achieve higher social protection for demobilized servicemen.

The law "On Defense" contains references to the national military doctrine which is still being worked on. Answering the question whether it would be adopted before the end of the current year, Andrey Kokoshin replied: "Certainly. I think that very soon the process of finalizing and coordinating its basic principles will reach its final stage."

Fiscal System Law Sent Back to Supreme Soviet

OW0807193992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1810 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Yeltsin sent back for further scrutiny the new law on Russia's fiscal system which the parliament approved on June 18.

The president's message to law-makers says the law fails to meet the requirements of the economic reform, and contains a number of flaws of financial and economic nature.

Nor does it mention the question of credit emission, as a major factor affecting inflation, money supply and other economic indicators. The message indicates the exclusion of credit emission from the concept of the fiscal system creates a host of problems relating to the definition of the budget deficit, the crediting of government-launched social programmes and internal debt.

More importantly, Mr Yeltsin believes that the transfer of the treasury and money-minting to the Bank of Russia as envisaged by the law can lead to a further mess in the money supply.

Group Suggests Yeltsin Veto Law on Cooperatives

LD0607140292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 3 Jul 92

[Text] The Parliamentary Coalition for Reform sent an open letter to Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Friday [3 July]. In this letter members of the coalition suggest that the president veto the law on consumer cooperatives adopted by the Russian parliament and return it to the Supreme Soviet for improvement.

The authors of the letter believe that the parliamentary groups representing Communists of Russia and directors of state farms and chairmen of collective farms have smuggled this blatantly lobby-orientated law through parliament. It opens up wide opportunities for so-called establishment privatization.

There can be no doubt that Russia needs a law on consumer cooperatives, the letter says. But it should protect the rights of rank and file shareholders, and not of bureaucrats who pretend to side with cooperatives. It should establish the absolute authority of the general meeting of shareholders. A law should be created such as would make it possible to demolish the monopolistic Central Union of Consumer Societies system and would provide conditions for recreating and developing in a healthy way the real consumer cooperatives.

Stance on Serbian Sanctions Explained

PM0507181792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Jun 92 Morning Edition p 3

[Letter from Ye. Ambartsumov, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet Committee for International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations, followed by editorial note: "The Russian Parliament Has Explained to Minister A. Kozyrev Why Sanctions Should Not Be Hastily Imposed on Serbia"]

[Text] This long headline and the following text are a necessary clarification of the one-sided article by S. Chugayev entitled "A. Kozyrev Explains to Parliament Why Russia Has Joined in the Sanctions Against Serbia" (see IZVESTIYA, 27 June). Unfortunately, S. Chugayev limited himself to an account of the foreign minister's speech in the Supreme Soviet 26 June, although a substantial and critical discussion subsequently ensued. However, the author of the article and its headline create the impression that the minister was laying down the law while parliament was listening to him with bated breath. The discussion was aimed at finding a way out of the Yugoslav deadlock which has been aggravated by sanctions because, having worsened the situation for the already long-suffering local population (let me at least remind readers of the children who have died through lack of medicines because of the blockade envisaged by sanctions), the sanctions have not resulted in a cease-fire. Incidentally, even Minister Kozyrev gave a positive assessment of the discussion of his report both in the Supreme Soviet and in our committee, merely disagreeing with the latter's conclusion on the haste with which Russia is joining in the sanctions against Serbia (to be more precise, against Serbia and Montenegro) and the insufficient justification for these sanctions themselves.

In our committee's opinion, which is based on information extracted in part from the report by the UN secretary general to the Security Council, Serbia alone cannot be held responsible for the hostilities. The Croatian army numbering 30,000-40,000 men has also invaded Bosnia-Hercegovina, while units of the Yugoslav People's Army have been withdrawn from there. And although armed detachments of Bosnian Serbs are continuing hostilities, the Serbian Government has distanced itself from them and condemned them, and there is no evidence that they are following orders from the Belgrade Government.

For this reason our committee has expressed its doubt in relation to sanctions. (I am expressing myself in a deliberately restrained fashion, whereas many deputies were far more abrupt in their assessment of the way the Russian representative voted at the Security Council). And the nub of the matter in this case is not just that Russia's traditionally pro-Serbian policy has been violated, although it is useful to bear natural traditions in mind. There was also—as IZVESTIYA also noted—a retreat from elemenatary objectivity and fairness which has unfortunately been perpetrated by the Western mass media: They write about Serbian atrocities, for example, but keep quiet about those committed by Croats.

It is incomprehensible, for example, why the anti-Iraq model is being applied against Serbia and Montenegro. After all, Saddam's Iraq had clearly committed open and unprovoked aggression against another sovereign state, whereas in Yugoslavia there is primarily an interethnic conflict which, as A. Kozyrev himself admitted, is difficult to unravel.

Our committee and the Supreme Soviet actually strove to restore precisely this objective approach. (The unfortunate unparliamentary attack on the minister that was made at the 26 June session was not supported by the hall). We also strove to warn against the danger of broadening the conflict as a result of outside intervention that is apparently in the offing.

I want to be correctly understood. The Russian Supreme Soviet and our committee, having made decisions that are critical of the sanctions, are certainly not setting themselves against the world community. After all, China also abstained from the sanctions vote, for which it was certainly not outcast. (This option was for some reason not adopted by the Foreign Ministry). Now France is objecting to the involvement of NATO Armed Forces in the Yugoslav conflict. It seems to me that Russia, which, of course, has its own state interests too, does not always have to copy the U.S. position, which is not always uncontentious. What I have said, of course, in no way brings into question the positive assessment of the agreements reached by President B.N. Yeltsin in Washington, which I for one share.

I hope that this cogent Russian position, which cannot be determined by the ups and downs of the U.S. election campaign, will be correctly understood and respected by the Americans.

The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet and our committee tried to explain all this to Minister A. Kozyrev. Hence the headline of this letter.

[Signed] Ye. Ambartsumov, chairman of the Committee for International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations

[IZVESTIYA editorial note] Like all newspapers, IZVESTIYA is published in accordance with a fixed schedule. When the 26 June issue was published, IZVESTIYA only possessed information about A. Kozyrev's speech.

Bank Official Comments on Enterprise Debts

LD0307054692 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 2 Jul 92

[M. Taki video report; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Speaking in parliament at the end of May, Georgiy Matyukhin, chairman of the Russian Central Bank, said that within three months the reciprocal debts of enterprises could amount to two trillion rubles. This figure has already been reached. A presidential decree has come into force in accordance with which all mutual debts of enterprises are frozen and converted into means of payment. Some observers believe that this will lead to massive bankruptcies of enterprises. Here is what the Russian Central Bank thinks:

[Begin S. Nikitin recording, captioned as deputy chief accountant of the Russian Central Bank] Those enterprises which are running at a loss—that is, enterprises which are making goods which are not in demand—can be declared bankrupt. [end recording]

Other enterprises, in order to escape bankruptcy, should more extensively attract financial resources by means of issuing stock.

[Begin Nikitin recording] If a campaign to issue stock leads to an injection of financial resources, then one can say that the enterprise will continue to operate. [end recording] [video shows parliamentary session, enterprises in operation]

Hearings Into Anti-Semitism Postponed

MK0107105792 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 92 p 1

[Yuliya Goryacheva report under the "Human Rights" rubric: "They Will Investigate Anti-Semitism in Fall. Experts Believe There Are More Important Problems Now"]

[Text] Sergey Kovalev, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet Human Rights Committee, has described as shameful the decision to postpone until the fall the parliamentary hearings—previously scheduled for 29 June—on the problem of the growth in anti-Semitism in Russia.

"The blood that is being shed all around is certainly not Jewish"—precisely this, according to him, has been the response of Kovalev's opponents to his arguments.

As is known, it took more than six months to prepare the reports. In addition to representatives of various public organizations (the VAAD [Confederation of Jewish Communities and Organizations of the USSR] and the Moscow Antifascist Center), it was proposed that historians and jurists would participate in the hearings.

The adoption of the decision was influenced to a considerable extent by a speech by Viktor Verenchuk, who demonstrated to his colleagues that "today the problem of anti-Semitism in Russia is less urgent than other ethnic problems."

Some supporters of the holding of parliamentary hearings on problems of discrimination are not inclined to dramatize the situation at present, believing that more carefully prepared reports will bring greater success.

Meanwhile, in the opinion of Yevgeniy Proshechkin, leader of the Moscow Antifascist Center, it cannot be ruled out that a delay over the aforementioned hearings will be fraught with tragic consequences.

"What of the Jews?" he told NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's correspondent. "They will leave, and their problems will be resolved. The problems of the rest—hardly."

According to Proshechkin, the situation is complicated by the fact that the actions of anti-Semites are backed by representatives of other extremist groupings.

It is proposed that the fall hearings will not be confined to the topic of anti-Semitism. It is curious, however, that the deputy who provided NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's correspondent with the information asked that attention not be focused on the fact that the question of the oppression of Russians in the Baltic region is also on the agenda.

Parliament Passes Law on Territorial Disputes

OW0307182192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1540 GMT 4 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian parliament has passed a law on a transitional period for the administrative-territorial division in the Federation. The law sets July 1 1995 as the deadline for taking the necessary legal and technical measures to resolve territorial disputes through the sole way of "coordinating the interests of the sides on the basis of current legislation".

The law says that the territorial exoneration of the persecuted peoples is to be carried out on the basis of separate legal acts of the Russian parliament "for each people and with the observance of the rights and interests of other ethnic groups living on the territories in question".

"Any actions aimed at the arbitrary seizure of land or at changing borders in the Russian federation shall be regarded as a crime against Russia and incur adequate punishment", the law says.

The law is in effect as of the moment it is published.

Parliament Adopts Law on Psychiatric Aid

LD0307085292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1758 GMT 2 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Galina Vinitskaya]

[Text] Moscow July 2 TASS—The Russian Parliament adopted on Thursday [2 July] the law "on psychiatric aid and guarantees of citizens' rights in rendering this aid".

The need for this document is connected with the fact that the lack of a due legislative regulation of psychiatric aid can be one of the reasons behind its use for purposes other than medical, said Leonid Kogan, head of the Parliamentary Committee for Health Protection, presenting the law.

The law goes into effect as of January 1, 1993. The government has been instructed to work out and endorse by December 1, 1992, the provision on the procedure and terms of state insurance of medical and other personnel participating in rendering psychiatric aid, as well as legal acts on benefits for these persons and a number of others, in connection with this document.

International Affairs

Kravchuk Meets Belgian Foreign, Prime Ministers

LD0707122892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1103 GMT 7 Jul 92

[By UKRINFORM-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Brussels, July 7 TASS—Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk began his visit to Belgium on Tuesday [7 July] by meeting Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene and Foreign Minister Willy Claes.

Later in the day he will attend an international conference on anti-semitism taking place in the Belgian capital. On Wednesday Kravchuk will visit the NATO headquarters to meet Secretary General Manfred Woerner and permament representatives of NATO member-countries.

Holds Talks With Foreign Minister

LD0707193692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1917 GMT 7 Jul 92

[By UKRINFORM-ITAR-TASS correspondent Victor Demidenko and Valeriy Shashkov]

[Text] Brussels, July 7 TASS—The President of Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk, who is on a working visit in Brussels, held meetings today with the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Belgium, Willy Claes. They discussed prospects of the development of relations between the two states and also a number of world problems of mutual interests.

Willy Claes emphasised that the Belgian Government attaches great importance to broadening ties with Ukraine and expressed satisfaction over the ratification of the agreement on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe by the Ukrainian parliament. He also noted that Belgium considers a speedy ratification of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty as very important.

After the meeting the signing ceremony of the declaration on principles of mutual relations between Belgium and Ukraine and the protocol on free movement of diplomats was held.

Talking to journalists Leonid Kravchuk expressed his full satisfaction with the results of the talks. Both sides expressed their determination to construct bilateral relations on principles of equality and mutual benefit in the interests of the Ukrainian and Belgian people.

Signs Declaration on Ties

LD0807132192 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Ukraine President Leonid Kravchuk, who is currently on a working visit in Brussels, met yesterday with Willy Claes, Belgian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. In the course of negotiations which took place, prospects for developing relations between the two states and also a number of international issues of mutual interest were discussed.

Willy Claes stressed that the Belgian Government attaches great importance to expanding contacts with Ukraine and expressed satisfaction in connection with the ratification by the Ukrainian parliament of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe. He also stressed that Belgium considers the speediest ratification of the Treaty on Limitation and Reduction of Strategic Offensive Weapons to be very important. After the meeting ended a ceremony of signing a declaration on principles of relations between Belgium and Ukraine and protocols on free movement of diplomats took place.

Kravchuk told journalists that he is completely satisfied with the results of the treaty. Yesterday, Leonid Kravchuk also met with Belgian businessmen. We are interested in developing trade relations with Ukraine and will assist is establishing business contacts with Ukrainian enterprises and state structures, Mark Ferval, director-general of the foreign trade directorate, said at this meeting. In the course of the meeting it was stressed that Ukraine would be given priority, taking into account its geographic situation.

A group of specialists will visit Ukraine as soon as in several months' time. They will study the state of affairs and will develop a specific plan of cooperation. In his turn, Leonid Kravchuk informed Belgian business people of the state of affairs in Ukraine, described its economic potential and named the most promising directions for investors. He stressed that the Ukrainian state counted on a considerable expansion of external economic relations. At the same time, the president noted, we do not intend to use Western credits to purchase consumer goods and foodstuffs. We plan to acquire modern technologies. This will make it possible to create conditions for strengthening industrial and economic potential. As a result of such an approach it is planned to pay for foreign debts and credits. The president of Ukraine answered the businessmen's questions.

Meets Belgian Businessmen

LD0807145792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1023 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Valeriy Shashkov]

[Text] Brussels, July 8 UKRINFORM—Belgium is interested in developing trade with Ukraine, Marc Vervott, director-general of the Belgian Department of Foreign Trade, said here on Tuesday [7 July] during a meeting of Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk with Belgian entrepreneurs. Vervott said the Department of Foreign Trade will be striving to establish business contacts with Ukrainian entrepreneurs and state structures.

It was noted at the meeting that Belgium will give priority to trade with Ukraine in view of its geographic position. A group of experts will arrive in Ukraine in several months' time to study the situation and draw up a specific plan for cooperation.

Kravchuk told Belgian entrepreneurs about the state of affairs in Ukraine, described its economic potential and mentioned the most promising areas for investment. He said the Ukrainian state counts on a considerable expansion of foreign economic ties. "We are not going to spend Western credits to purchase consumer goods and food," Kravchuk said. "We place an emphasis on acquiring contemporary technologies. This will make it possible to create conditions for the strengthening of industrial and economic potential. It is planned to settle foreign debts and repay credits on the basis of this approach".

Ends Visit, Leaves For Helsinki

LD0807150692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1431 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondents Viktor Demidenko and Valeriy Shashkov—TASS]

[Text] Brussels, July 8 TASS—The declaration on principles of relations between Ukraine and Belgium became the major document signed during a two-day visit of Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk to Belgium.

On Wednesday [8 July] he held talks with Foreign Minister Willy Claes and met speakers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Belgian Parliament.

Kravchuk also visited NATO headquarters and met Manfred Woerner, NATO secretary general.

Also on Wednesday the president left for Helsinki to attend the CSCE summit there.

National Affairs

Economy Minister 'Not Going To Resign'

LD0907025292 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian 1658 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Oleksandr Litvinov: "V.T. Lanonvyy: 'I Am Not Going To Resign'—UKRINFORM headline]

[Text] [No dateline as received]—"I am not claiming to head the government, but I am not going to resign either. My aim is to move forward the economic reform," stated Volodymyr Lanovyy, vice premier and minister of economy of Ukraine, on 8 July at a news conference for Ukrainian and foreign journalists. He described the situation which has developed since the question of confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers was considered by the Supreme Soviet.

The economy of Ukraine, stressed Lanovyy, today finds itself in a difficult situation because the market reforms are being implemented slowly and even being hindered. The proof is the amendments to the state program for privatization, which were introduced under pressure from the new socialist forces at the last plenary session of the parliament. Those amendments do not correspond to the objectives of the economic reform. In effect, an attempt to substitute privatization by collectivization is under way.

Answering questions, Lanovyy said that it is better to implement the program and reforms which are there than not to do anything. If there are attempts at confrontation, the truth will become known.

The vice premier stressed that, in his opinion, the economic situation in Ukraine will become worse in the near future due to Russia's introducing new prices for energy carriers and due to settlements with Russia at world prices. He said that production stoppages, an increase in unprofitable enterprises, and an increase in prices are possible. As a consequence there will be worsening of the living standards of people.

Lanovyy spoke about the measures which should be worked out and implemented immediately in order to avoid a critical situation in the economy. Passiveness here can lead to sharpening of the sociopolitical situation. He expressed hope that the president of Ukraine will support his efforts.

A statement by the presidium of the sociopolitical association "Nova Ukraina" concerning the government crisis was circulated among the participants in the news conference. It stresses that the current government of Ukraine is unable to carry out necessary reforms and must resign because its activities are directed at sabotaging the economic reform. "Nova Ukraina" proposes to the president of Ukraine and all political groupings to start immediate consultations for forming a government of popular trust. If that does not happen in the near future, the association will start consultations for creating a coalition of democratic forces with the objective of forming a shadow cabinet. "Nova Ukraina" supports the course on early parliamentary elections which, in their opinion, will initiate a change in the political situation which at the moment restrains the market reforms.

National Security Council Composition Detailed

LD0807160292 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] President Leonid Kravchuk has decreed the creation of a National Security Council under the Ukrainian president with the purpose of forming and implementing policy in the sphere of protecting vital interests and guaranteeing the national security of the state. The composition of the National Security Council has been confirmed by the president's decree. Permanent members of the Council are: President Leonid Kravchuk; Volodymyr Selivanov, state advisor of Ukraine for issues of national security; Prime Minister Vitold Fokin;

Defense Minister Kostyantyn Morozov; Yevhen Marchuk, the head of Ukraine's Security Service; and Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko. Borys Paton, the president of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences; Ministers Andriy Vasylyshyn, Yuriy Spizhenko, Yuriy Shcherbak; Valeriy Hubenko, chairman of the State Committee for Issues of the State Borders of Ukraine; and Vadym Hetman, chairman of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine, have been confirmed as members of the National Security Council.

Crimea Decides To Not Hold 2 Aug Refefendum

OW0907142292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1303 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the Crimean Republic has decided today, Thursday [9 July], to freeze its own ruling on "Holding an All-Crimea Referendum". Of the total of 130 deputies 106 voted for it by secret ballot, 17 against, and 7 abstained.

The decision to hold a referendum on the Crimea's status was passed at the parliament's May session. 250,000 signatures had been collected in support of asking the question "are you for independent Republic of the Crimea allied to other states?" The referendum was appointed for August 2. The same session ruled on the peninsula's state independence, but later repealed the ruling under pressure from Kiev.

Byelarus

Army's Participation in Moldova Ruled Out

LD0807214192 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 2045 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Minsk—Byelarusian Army's participation in peace-making mission in Moldova is impossible as yet, said Stanislav Shushkevich, Byelarusian Parliament's speaker.

This is explained by the fact that at present Byelarusian Army is in the process of reorganization, said Shushkevich while speaking on July 7 at a press-conference in Minsk. In his words, now Byelarus is ready to help to participation of others' armies in disengagement of the conflicting sides in Moldova [as received]. Stanislav Shushkevich called unacceptable the information of Ostankino TV Company about the role of Byelarus in solving the conflict in Moldova. Byelarusian Parliament's speaker has confirmed Byelarusian leaders' intention to keep in contact only with constitutional authorities of Moldova, and with their consent, also with Dniester leaders.

Vyacheslav Kebich, prime-minister of the Republic of Byelarus, who also spoke at the press-conference, refuted the information about additional supplies of fuel and lubricants from Byelarus to Moldova and about conclusion of corresponding agreements between the Republic of Byelarus and Moldova. Kebich also confirmed the information about appearance in Gomel of Byelarusian refugees from Moldova and said that the commission of emergency situation of the Cabinet of Ministers of Byelarus has received orders to deal with granting residence places to the refugees.

During the press-conference Stanislav Shushkevich said that in near future a bilateral agreement with Russia is planned to be concluded on the troops of strategic destination, which are under jurisdiction of Russia, but stationed in the Republic of Byelarus, with a concrete term of their withdrawal not later than 7 years. In Stanislav Shushkevich words, difficulties are expected with deployment of the troops which are withdrawn from Germany.

In his words, the fact of appointment of Colonel-General Aleksandr Dubynin, Byelarusian people's deputy, as Chief of Staff of Russian Army (the former commander of the Northern Group of troops) is a curiosity of the transitional period, but we will solve it tactfully and peacefully.

Caution Advised in Nuclear Arms Withdrawal

LD0807181792 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1710 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Military News" section]

[Text] The Byelarus deputy defence minister: Byelarus should not be in a hurry to proclaim its non-nuclear status and withdraw strategic nuclear weapons as the developments in the CIS are unpredictable possession of nuclear weapons will be instrumental in Byelarus achieving the situation when during the first period of its independence taking root it will be reckoned with in the world, the deputy defence minister, Colonel-General Petr Chaus also said in an interview to the Byelarusian newspaper ZVYAZDA of July 7. According to Chaus, there has never been a situation when a state should renounce nuclear weapons, on the contrary, everybody is seeking to have them. Speaking on Byelarus' neutrality, Petr Chaus said, in particular, that Austria, Sweden and a number of other neutral states, following the disintegration of the Warsaw Treaty, seek to give up pure neutrality and there is a lot of sense in this kind of policy, he said.

Status of Officers Serving in Republics Examined

OW0607183592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1517 GMT 6 Jul 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] One of the major difficulties the republican leadership is confronting when addressing the creation of an own army and the formulation of a military doctrine (in was in the focus of attention of the recent first sitting of the Security Council of the republic that was presided over by Stanislav Shushkevich) is the need to provide a safety net for the Byelarus commissioned officers who are servicing outside the republic. According to IF's [INTERFAX's] Minsk office, more than 10,000 generals, commissioned and non-commissioned officers of Byelarus origin requested the Byelarus Defense Ministry to find positions for them with the republican army.

Colonel Ivan Zubko, chief of the Byelarus Defense Ministry personnel department, reported that more than 45 Byelarus citizens are serving outside the republic, including 5,000 in conflict zones on the territory of the ex-Soviet Union. According to the colonel, Byelarus received 1060 servicemen this year, including 5 general officers.

According to Byelarus Defense Minister Colonel-General Pavel Kozlovskiy, requests from officers servicing in conflict zones, the Caucasus and Moldova, are considered on a priority basis. Citing numerous complaints from Byelarus serving in those areas, Zubko said that "living is becoming intolerable there because fighting is senseless, but also because of other reasons."

Zubko noted that many of the officers had sent their families to other republics, but because of banking restrictions, they often cannot remit money to their families.

According to Zubko, the Russian Defense Ministry should decide on making payments to officers' families via military commissariats as was the case during the Afghan campaign.

Zubko said that the republican army is officer-heavy, and the defense Ministry has been forced to issue an order allowing junior commissioned officers fill in non-com positions. Zubko said that the average pay in the Byelarus army is 8,000 rubles a month.

The country pays around 100,000 rubles to have one commissioned officer. Of the 14 bn. [billion] rubles the parliament appropriated as military expenditures for this year, the Defense Ministry has received a scant 8 bn. rubles, but with account of the spiralling inflation, the actual expenses in June alone will be, it is estimated, equal to 1.950 bn. rubles.

According to Zubko, many career officers of non-Byelarus origin express desire to leave the republic. During this year, said he, 732 people left, including 205 who had left for Ukraine. Another 239 plan to leave soon, including 184 for Ukraine. Two generals decided to leave for Russia. According to efficient international agreements, all servicemen who decided to serve at home will draw pensions in retirement, with service with the USSR armies and other republican armies credited toward the length of service.

Moldova

Defense Minister Rejects Lebed's Statement

OW0607173392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1558 GMT 6 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Moldovan Defense Minister Ion Costas said that statements by the Commander of the 14th Russian Army General Aleksandr Lebed on military aid to the republic from Romania and preparations by the Moldovan army to launch an offensive on the Dniester republic are "false and provocative".

At a press conference in Chisinau Sunday [5 July], Costas commented on Lebed's remarks and the development of the situation in the Dniester region; he said that he detects the development of imperialistic tendencies in Russia's policy toward Moldova, and the influence of militaristic forces in the Russian government and army.

Costas said that the worst predictions on the role and intention of the 14th Army may come true in the next few days. He did not rule out the possibility of widescale interference by the army in the Dniester conflict, and military aggression against Moldova.

The minister suggested that journalists visit the areas where, according to Lebed, Romanian military equipment is located, saying, that he will "shoot himself in the head if even one Romanian tank is discovered there".

At the end of the press conference Costas told "IF" [INTERFAX] that he will do all he can to prevent bloodshed in Moldova.

The Minister said that "very strong groups in the Russian government are behind the separatists in the Dniester region".

Parliament Ratifies Armed Forces Treaty

LD0407081492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1655 GMT 3 Jul 92

[Text] Chisinau, July 3 TASS—The Moldovan parliament ratified today the treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe with all additional protocols and documents. It also ratified the convention on maximum levels for the presence of armaments and military hardware signed in Budapest, a final document of the emergency conference of signatories to the treaty signed in Oslo and the convention on principles and order of putting into effect the treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe signed in Tashkent.

The Moldovan Foreign Ministry was assigned to ensure the preparation and transfer of the acts on joining those documents to the depository states.

Dniester Accuses Moldova of 'Severe Violation'

LD0807163292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1548 GMT 7 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Tiraspol, July 8 TASS—The government of the Trans-Dniester region accused Moldova of a "severe violation" of a ceasefire agreement reached between Russia, Moldova and the Trans-Dniester region last night, according to a statement circulated here on Wednesday [8 July].

The statement pointed out that the Moldovan side has taken advantage of the withdrawal of Trans-Dniester's guns and armour for the purpose.

Heavy shelling of combat positions of the Trans-Dniester's Armed Formations and the town of Dubossary has been going on throughout the night and continued in the morning from 9 to 11 am and was resumed at 14:30 pm, the statement said.

The government of the Trans-Dniester region declared that the only condition to achieve peace in the region is an immediate ceasefire, an unconditional withdrawal of all armed and police formations of the Republic of Moldova from the territory of the Trans-Dniester region, the deployment of international peace-keeping force, besides Moldova and Romania as participants in the armed conflict, and the recognition of the status of the Trans-Dniester region as an independent, sovereign state.

Further Reportage on Batallion Movements

LD0707215692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1628 GMT 7 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunayskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 7 Jul (ITAR-TASS)—The intensive movement of new Moldovan army batallions toward Cocieri and the Cosnita bridgehead continues, the ITAR-TASS correspondent was told at the headquarters of the 14th Army stationed in the Dniester Region.

According to Russian servicemen, T-72 tanks are being moved to the Cosnita bridgehead along the right bank of the Dniester. The tank crews have two or three basic loads of ammunition each. In addition to MIG-29s, Romanian SU-25 planes and Mi-24 helicopters will take part in combat operations to support Moldova. Every day four or five groups with military hardware and ammunition cross the Romanian border with Moldova. Intensive training of servicemen in the Moldovan Army continues.

The build-up of the armored attack force of the Moldovan armed forces serves to terrorize the population of the Dniester Region, the 14th Army Headquarter report notes. Moreover, according to the Russian military, the Moldovan side has begun to lay "surprise" mines of Western manufacture, i.e. mines that have been cunningly disguised as children's toys.

Military Activity Noted; 'Second Front' Feared

AU0707202392 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1807 GMT 7 Jul 92

[Text] Chisinau, ROMPRES, 7/7/1992—The minister of the interior of Moldova, Constantin Antoci, informed the Moldovan Parliament, that, despite the understandings made with representatives of the separatists in the Dniester region, fire exchanges have continued in the conflict zone, informs MOLDOVA PRES. The minister announced that Monday, July 6, actions were initiated at Tighina, to block access ways with ferro-concrete boards. Many guardsmen were seen in the area. The headquarters of the police of the town of Tighina was often fired at. Mr. Antoci added that Tighina policemen were in danger again.

The ministers of the interior, of defense and of national security of the Republic of Moldova spoke in front of the Moldovan Parliament, of the presence of troops and military equipment in zones such as Comrat, Camenca and Colbasna, where the presence of no military units have been signaled so far. The said troops have been reported to be active especially at night. Referring to the possibility that the Gagauz population be attracted in the war, a deputy representing this minority addressed the president of the Republic of Moldova, Mircea Snegur and asked him that "the Gagauz population be not permitted to get involved in the war, as history will not forget us".

Much talk has been of late about the possibility for "a second front" to be opened in this zone of the republic, where trenches have been dug.

Cease-Fire Order Signed by All Sides

LD0807035592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0045 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS freelance correspondent Anatoliy Kholodyuk]

[Text] Tiraspol, 8 Jul—An order has been signed in accordance with the agreement attained on 6 July between the presidents of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Moldova on a cease-fire in the Dniester region, and on the basis of a joint accord attained between Colonel General V. Semenov, authorized representative of the president of the Russian Federation; Brigade General P. Kryange, first deputy minister of defense of the Republic of Moldova; and Major General S. Kitsak, chief of the defense directorate of Dniester Region. The order was signed in the presence of Major General A. Lebed, commander of the 14th Army of the Russian Federation Armed Forces. The order says:

1. A cease-fire will take effect immediately in regard to all kinds of weapons, combat equipment, and other equipment suitable for carrying out combat operations.

2. As of 0000 on 8 July, mortars and artillery systems, combat armored vehicles, missiles, cannons, and machine gun antiaircraft installations should be removed from firing positions. By 1000 on 8 July the weapons and equipment should be concentrated in mutually determined areas. Within the same time limits, operations by snipers and reconnaissance and sabotage groups should be stopped. They should be withdrawn to the areas of their subunits and units.

3. Combined monitoring groups should be set up from the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Moldova, Dniester Region's military formations, the 14th Army of the Russian Federation, and observers from the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense. They should be equipped with communications to monitor the strict implementation of the accords. Safe monitoring with the use of helicopters should be ensured as of 1000 on 8 July this year.

4. The observers selected for monitoring in the combined groups should report the results of their work by 1600 on 8 July.

5. All the media should inform the population about the measures being implemented.

All the above generals signed the order.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent has learned that the order will be read on Dniester radio at 0600 local time.

Clashes, Cease-Fire Situation Updated

LD0807125892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1027 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By MOLDOVA-PRES-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Chisinau, 8 Jul—MOLDOVA-PRES reports that, despite the accord reached on a cease-fire, exchanges of fire continued in Bendery last night. According to information from the press center of the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs, there was concentrated firing on the Bendery Police Department. There was also firing in the region of the villages of Cosnita and Cocieri. Two people were killed and 23 wounded in the last 24 hours.

According to information from the Moldovan Defense Ministry Press Center, Dniester region armed formations shelled Moldovan positions on the evening of 7 July using various weapons. According to the same information, "Alazan" missiles, mortars, tanks, and heavy artillery were used in the shelling of bridge heads in Cosnita and Cocieri.

It was reported that there was a night meeting between the representatives of the Moldovan police and the leaders of the Dniester region guards, at which the problems of the cease-fire were discussed. The cease-fire accord was observed in most of the areas in the conflict zone after midnight.

[Moscow ITAR-TASS in English at 1142 GMT on 8 July, in a report by correspondent Fyodor Angeliy, adds the following: "The city of Dubossary came under heavy shelling early on Wednesday, Republican People's Deputy Boris Akulov told TASS by telephone. The fire ceased at 11.15 hours Moscow time, he said, adding the Moldovan side had violated the ceasefire agreement reached last night by representatives of the Russian president, of the Moldovan Defence Ministry and of the Dniester Defence Department. The agreement called for an immediate ceasefire.

["Military personnel and hardware are being redeployed from Kholerman to Cocieri. If the movement of troops is not stopped, the Dniester guardsmen will be forced to open fire from all types of weapons, Akulov warned, adding the armistice will then be finally broken. The Moldovan Defence Ministry denied the statement of the people's deputy."]

Defense Minister on Dniester Disengagement

OW0807111792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1047 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The withdrawal of the confronting forces comprising heavy artillery, tanks, mortar detachments of the Moldovan and Dniestrian armed formations was begun in Trans-Dniester on Wednesday [8 July] morning. In his exclusive interview with "IF" [INTERFAX] the Moldovan Defense Minister Ion Costas said that these actions were undertaken in accordance with an agreement reached in the village Limanskoe of Odessa province between Russia, Moldova, and Trans-Dniester the night before. Colonel General Vladimir Semyenov on behalf of the Russian Defense Ministry, the first deputy Defense Minister Major General Pavel Kryange on behalf of the Moldovan Defense Ministry, and the commander of the guard General Shtefan Kitsak on behalf of Dniester signed an order foreseeing an immediate cease-fire and withdrawal of the confronting formations. Representatives of the 14th Russian army and Cossacks were present at the ceremony of signing.

Costas reported that the armed formations of the parties will be withdrawn, in particular, from Bendery, where the most bloodshed hostilities took place over the last period of time.

According to Costas, special groups of supervisors were formed to conduct the process of dividing. They consist of representatives of Moldova and Dniester.

The second stage of dividing foresees withdrawal of armed formations of Moldova and Dniester armed with rifles.

The leadership of the Moldovan Defense Ministry is to depart for Tiraspol at 10.00 local time with the aim "to develop the process of conflict settlement in Dniester".

Presidential Aide on Cease-Fire Machinery

OW0807184792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The order for an immediate cease-fire in Dniester is part of the agreement reached between Presidents Snegur and Yeltsin which makes both of them act as guarantors of a peaceful solution to the conflict, Mr Snegur's defence and national security aide Nikolae Kirtoake said in an exclusive interview with IF [INTERFAX]. He said this marked the start of a genuine cease-fire process. Russia's forces can act as guarantors of the withdrawal of armed units from the engagement line on the Dniester's left bank, said Kirtoake. It is very important, he went on to say, because we know that the Dniester authorities are only in control of the local Guard, but not of operations by different territorial self-defence and Cossack units.

Kirtoake believes that the withdrawal of military hardware, now under way, sets conditions for the resumption of the political dialogue. He called for the resumption of work by the parliament-established conciliatory commission which also includes members from the Dniester region. The Moldovan parliament had initially called on five nations—Russia, Ukraine, Byelarus, Bulgaria and Romania—to send a joint peacekeeping force to the region in the second stage. However, Bulgaria refused to interfere in the regional conflict, while Byelarus said it was unable to send troops because of not having its own army yet. This leaves Russia, Ukraine, Romania and Moldova to handle the conflict again. Kirtoake spoke of the need to discuss what sort of international mechanisms could be brought in. He did not rule out the possibility of inviting UN observers.

The Moldovan official said President Snegur would raise the issue of a negotiated solution to the conflict at the CSCE summit conference in Helsinki.

Snegur Notes 'Promising Result' in Cease-Fire

AU0807204692 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1716 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Chisinau, ROMPRES, 8/7/1992—Our participation in the Helsinki process confirms that Moldova advances firmly on the independence way, stated Moldovan President Mircea Snegur before leaving for Helsinki to attend the CSCE summit.

Asked about his attitude toward the latest news on an understanding on cease-fire in the conflict area, Mircea Snegur said: heavy technique and other types of armament are being withdrawn under the Joint Commission's control. It is a promising result and we hope it will be followed by other like steps. He also stated he would request the CSCE to send disengagement forces, both military and observers, to Moldova.

Cease-Fire Fails; 10 Casualties in Bendery

LD0907094192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0850 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Fedor Angeli]

[Text] Chisinau, 9 Jul—Despite the agreement reached by the official representatives of the Russian president, the officials of the Moldovan Defense Ministry, and the Dniester Defense Administration on a cease-fire of all types of weapons, shelling from mortars, grenade-launchers, and infantry weapons was again heard in the Dniester area of conflict in the last 24 hours.

The press office of the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs told the ITAR-TASS correspondent that positions of the republic's armed forces and police came under fire in many areas of the frontline. Their positions came under especially intensive fire in the town of Bendery. According to preliminary figures, two policemen were killed and eight people wounded.

According to the Dniester press center, mortars and grenade launchers were used to shell a number of sites in Dubossary and also positions of the Dniester guards. The personnel of the Moldovan armed forces and several armored vehicles were transported from the right bank of the Dniester. There have not been any reports on losses among the Dniester guards.

Foreign Minister Praises U.S. Relations

LD0207225592 Chisinau Radio Chisinau Network in Russian 1800 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Interview with Foreign Minister Nikolay Tiu and unidentified reporter; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Over the past few days, very important and major events for our republic have taken place, which I would qualify as being to the credit of the Republic of Moldova's diplomacy. I have in mind a certain improvement in our relations with the United States. Probably the listeners are already aware of the events of which I am speaking. I would like you to characterize in greater detail both the importance of these events and the results that could have an impact on changing the situation inside our republic and on the position of our republic in the world community.

[Tiu] One might say that three events occurred. The first is that today, through an exchange of verbal notes with the representative of the U.S. Embassy here in Chisinau, we received most-favored-nation status from the United States and at the same time they received a similar status from us. That is the first thing. The second is, of course, the fact that the United States is supporting us at this very difficult time for us. This is a fine example for other states and has both a political and a moral aspect, not to mention the economic aspect, because at the present time we find ourselves in an economic crisis. In this respect capital investments.... [changes thought] The fact that today, through an exchange of notes, we ratified two main agreements: the first being an economic agreement, a trade agreement, between our states, and the second being on investments, capital investments. Thus, here there is a double and even a triple impact.

The second event has been Mr. Pressler's amendment. That amendment is of great importance for us in view of the fact that by its objectivity, it has informed the world community about what is occurring today in Moldova. It is of very great importance for us. The fact that the U.S. Senate has supported us at this very difficult time is also a great support for us and is of great international significance.

These two events show that when we made our original analysis, and after my visit last year to Italy and my meeting with the French ambassador, we drew the conclusion that we would not have great support in Europe. They did, of course, in the main support us, but when it got down to specifics it was not as effective as we had wished. We then executed a turn in our foreign policy toward the United States. The exchange of verbal notes today and Mr. Pressler's amendment show that the United States supports us. We have no violations of human rights in our country, and we are moving toward a democratic state and a market economy. That is why the United States supports us. Therefore, we consider that in the long-term and the strategic area of our foreign policy, the strategic course has proven to be a correct one.

Kazakhstan

Security Committee Hold News Conference

LD0907162892 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1400 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] The heads of Kazakhstan's National Security Committee have held a news conference. In his introductory remarks and in answers to questions put by journalists, Baykenov, chairman of the Committee, noted that after the eighth session of the Supreme Soviet had passed a law on national security bodies, the nature of their activities was no longer absolutely secret. This has a positive effect on the fulfilment of important tasks. The Kazakhstan National Security Committee has signed bilateral agreements on mutual assistance with similar bodies in the Russian Federation, Kyrgyzstan, and Byelarus. In the near future similar agreements will be signed with other sovereign republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States. This will allow Kazakhstan to ensure more reliable security.

It was justly noted at the news conference that no intelligence and counter-intelligence service can do effective work without the active help of the public. As to the stability of interethnic relations in the republic, it did not develop all on its own, but is a product of the activity of the president and government of the republic, and of law enforcement bodies. However, there is a group of people striving to provoke a conflict on an interethnic basis. This is demonstrated by the illegal dissemination of an anonymous leaflet which aims to sow chaos and discord.

The National Security Committee, together with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, will do all that is necessary to stop similar actions in the future. The peoples of Kazakhstan must and will live in peace and concord, without which there cannot be changes for the better in the economy, and the social and domestic conditions.

Law on International Groups Membership Signed

LD0307222192 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1400 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev signed the law on the membership of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development, the International Finance Corporation, the International Development Association, the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, and the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes. The adoption of this law was aimed to create the necessary condition for the Republic of Kazakhstan to take part in the work of these international organizations. The full text of the law will be published in the republican newspaper by 11 July.

President Signs Decree on Harvesting of Crops

OW0207114092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1036 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev signed a decree on emergency measures to be taken to ensure an efficient harvesting and storage of this year's crops, their rational use and appropriate laying-in of fodder.

The decree provides for establishing a special commission on farming led by Kazakhstan's Prime Minister Sergey Tereschenko to monitor the work of local government bodies and resolve problems connected with harvesting promptly.

N. Nazarbayev prohibited the exports of grain from Kazakhstan "till special instructions to be given by the council of ministers". Besides, he instructed the government to fix maximal purchasing prices for grain and soy-beans "on the basis of current world prices."

Special Measures for Harvest Announced

LD0807183192 Alma-Ata Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] The Cabinet of Ministers has adopted a decision on measures for carrying out harvesting in an organized way and for guaranteeing fulfillment of the state order for agricultural produce in 1992. A special regime has been imposed until 1 November for the use of financial, material, and technical resources for the harvest, procurement, and processing of agricultural produce. Measures have been planned to provide farms with all they need to work without interruption. A strictly regulated procedure for the centralized export of grain and for internal distribution has been established. This will be carried out only on the order of the Cabinet of Ministers.

At the same time, selling grain on the external market that is left over after fulfilling the state order is not prohibited. State farms and collective farms can sell up to five tonnes of grain to specialists from the CIS countries whose services have been enlisted for harvesting.

The state will buy grain at new, higher prices. The preliminary purchase price for a tonne of first class durum wheat is 10,000 rubles. Besides that, a 10-percent surcharge on the initial cost after completing grain purchases, and an additional payment that takes into account the actual selling prices when grain is sold outside Kazakhstan, are envisaged.

Supreme Soviet Passes Privatization Resolution

LD0707000392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2108 GMT 6 Jul 92

[By KAZTAG-TASS correspondent Tatyana Zhurbenko]

[Text] Alma-Ata July 7 TASS—Kazakhstan's parliament has passed a resolution which is expected to speed up privatization in this Central Asian republic.

The act envisages creating a centralized system for privatizing state-owned property and scraps the division into republican and municipal property. This is expected to end fighting between local administration heads, who considered every venture on their territory as their own, and the republican committee on state property.

A special commission has been set to monitor privatization and denationalization.

Lawmakers, however, rejected a proposal included in the act, to unite the committee on state property with the anti-monopoly committee. Both committees have similar functions.

Tajikistan

Militants Crossing From Afghanistan 'Routed'

LD0907082492 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] Border guards in Tajikistan have routed a large group of militants who wanted to fight their way through from the territory (of) Afghanistan into that country. The militants were armed with machine guns, automatic rifles and grenades. One border violator was killed, two more wounded and 18 others taken prisoner. All of them proved to be residents of the Kurgan-Tyubinsk region of Tajikistan who had reportedly crossed into Afghanistan to get arms in order to fight for power in Tajikistan among various groupings. The chief of staff of the Central Asia border area (?Grybanov) has urged all the countries of Central Asia to take joint action to protect their borders.

Border Guards Deny Presence of Afghan Mojaheddin

OW0307182392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1540 GMT 3 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deputy chief of the operations group department of the Central Asian border-guard district, Lieutenant-Colonel Abdunabi Djalilov has dismissed rumors of the involvement of Afghan mojaheddin forces in armed clashes in Tajikistan. He told IF [INTERFAX] that the border guards and all mojaheddin field commanders had agreed to observe the 1958 treaty of the state border.

At the same time Djalilov said that there had been ever more cases of border crossing in either direction. He recalled that the border-guards protected the state border and people of Tajikistan and warned that they would not permit any armed intrusions and open fire on those violating the border from either Afghanistan or Tajikistan.

President Approves State-Run Migration Service

LD0707151792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1404 GMT 7 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, July 7 TASS—The president of Tajikistan has signed a decree of the founding of a state-run migration service. The new organisation is being established with a view to elaborating an overall policy in tackling matters concerning the migration of the population, the protection of the rights of and aid to citizens who had to abandon the places of their permanent residence, the decree emphasises.

The refugee problem has become sharply aggravated in the republic of late. An unstable political situation and inter-ethnic tension lead to an outflow of the non-indigenous population. According to preliminary data, up to 100,000 people have left Tajikistan since the beginning of the year.

In the opinion of Kakhramon Ashurov, chairman of the Tajik organising committee of the Democratic Reform Movement, moves that make for an increased outflow of refugees are being made in Tajikistan.

Ashurov referred, in particular, to Tajikistan's draft new constitution, a number of the provisions of which, in the opinion of the non-indigenous population, are of overtly discriminatory nature, such as a ban on dual citizenship and the edging of the Russian language out of the republic's state and social life.

The number of Russian-language general educational schools and institutions of higher learning, as well as the number of Russian-language telecasts, are being sharply cut down. All this is being speeded up despite the fact that the bill provides for the introduction of the state language on the territory of Tajikistan only in 1995.

Bush Promises Nabiyev Humanitarian Aid

OW1906193092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1702 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Report by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Nabiyev received a telegram from the US President George Bush expressing condolences due to huge mud flows in the result of which 150 persons were killed. The head of the American administration underlined that he knows the problems and needs of the Tajik people thanks to the messages sent by the diplomatic mission in Dushanbe and he is ready to render humanitarian assistance to the regions which suffered most of all.

Deputy Chairman of Defense Committee Appointed

LD1906215692 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Excerpt] The republican Defense Committee's press center reported that the Tajik Cabinet has approved the appointment of Colonel Tohir Qurbonovich Safarov as deputy chairman of the republican Defense Committee. Colonel Anatoliy Vitaliy Kroyev was appointed head of headquarters, deputy chairman of the Defense Committee. [sentence as heard] [passage omitted]

Armenia

Ter-Petrosyan, Opposition Clash Over Recognition

PM0807144192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Sergey Bablumyan report: "Armenian Parliament Discusses Whether To Recognize the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic"]

[Text] Yerevan—The parliamentary session which continued 1 July began with a statement by Speaker Babken Ararktsyan that in no circumstances would he put to the vote the question of Armenian recognition of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

According to Babken Ararktsyan's statement, the question of recognition of a particular state formation is the prerogative of the republic's president and therefore is outside the competence of the Supreme Council. There were perplexity and protests among deputies at the fact that the parliamentary speaker had remembered this only after several days of turbulent debate which B. Ararktsyan proposed be regarded as political hearings. By noon, passions in parliament were running so high that the chairman was forced to announce an unscheduled recess.

The situation is exacerbated by a special legal circumstance dating back to December 1989, when the Armenian Supreme Soviet adopted a decision prescribing that Nagorno-Karabakh be deemed a component part of Armenia. But now parliament is having to carry out a rather strange action—recognizing something that, according to formal logic, does not need recognizing. In an attempt to find a way out of the impasse some deputies proposed first rescinding the December resolution, after which Armenian recognition of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic would be sensible. However, these calls did not meet with the requisite support.

President Levon Ter-Petrosyan of Armenia spoke and reaffirmed his conviction of the impermissibility of recognizing the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and concluding a military-political alliance with it, since in that case Armenia would automatically be in a state of war with Azerbaijan and Turkey. The president deemed it his duty to warn the people of the danger that threatens them and declared that he remains committed to democracy and will use all the power granted him by the constitution in order to stop the opposition's adventures. Only if I have made every effort but have been unable to prevent war will I admit my powerlessness to the people and submit my resignation, Levon Ter-Petrosyan said.

The opposition accused L. Ter-Petrosyan of strong-arm pressure and promised to convene next Friday an impressive rally in support of recognizing the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic.

Ter-Petrosyan Issues Statement on Nagorno-Karabakh

OW0907125092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1030 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Armenia's President Levon Ter-Petrosyan has always expressed readiness for a ceasefire and peace settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh. But each time the Armenian side succeeded in reaching agreements on that issue, Baku broke them—points out the statement issued by Yerevan on Thursday [9 July] by the president's press-service.

Previously it was announced that Azerbaijan had declared a ceasefire in Nagorno-Karabakh for a month beginning with July 9.

Further Armenia's statement points out that during the massive Azerbaijani attack on the Shaumyan and Mardakert districts the chairman of the CSCE meeting in Minsk on Karabakh, Mario Rafaelli, did not appeal to Armenia and Azerbaijan for a ceasefire. That was only followed a halt in the offensive and heavy losses on Azerbaijan's side. [sentence as received] Such an appeal should have been made much earlier.

Reports of President's Resignation 'Unrealistic'

OW0807175292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A resignation of President Levon Ter-Petrosyan is ultimately unrealistic, and there are no reasons for it, said the Armenian president's press spokesman, Ruben Shugaryan. He emphasized that the subject of the president's resignation had been mulled over by the opposition, apparently, seeking to destabilize the situation in the republic and produce an impression that the president had been abandoned by his aides.

We do not have any alternative leader in the republic who is capable of replacing the Ter-Petrosyan, the press secretary averred. He also went on to say that the president "is not clinging to his post, and he will leave his office when he feels that the country no longer benefits by his activities and there is a worthwhile replacement for him".

Mr Shugaryan officially denied the allegations circulated by the "Yerkir" ["The Country" - a "Dashnagsutiun" party daily paper] according to which the president's adviser, Zhirair Liparityan, and the president's chief of personnel, Shagen Karamanukyan, were about to resign. "The president's aides are not going to abandon him," Mr Shugaryan asserted. The president's press spokesman reiterated that the publication had come as a result of the opposition's desire to destabilize the situation in

Armenia and produce an impression that "the president's closest aides began to abandon him".

IF [INTERFAX] Note: Ruben Shugaryan, 29, was appointed to the position of the presidential press secretary by Ter-Petrosyan's decision on July 3. Mr Shugaryan was graduated from the English-Russian department of the Yerevan Institute of Foreign Languages. At present, he is a post-graduate of the Yerevan State University. Ruben Shugaryan has dedicated several years to working in the Armenian General National Movement. He shares its program and provisions. He is not a member in any political party.

'Consistent Support' Pledged to Nagorno-Karabakh

OW0907141492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1303 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Wednesday's [8 July] extraordinary session of Armenian Parliament adopted by a large majority a document on the events in Nagorno-Karabakh proposed by the National Union group including the opposition parties.

Parliament pledges in it to give consistent support and protection to the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and its people. It will reject any international or Armenian paper mentioning Nagorno- Karabakh as part of Azerbaijan. The Armenian Government is requested to take immediate measures for an effective mobilization, against organized crime, and for guarding defence secrets.

Supreme Soviet Chairman's Resignation Rejected

NC0807154192 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] The Armenian Supreme Soviet extraordinary session opened today at 1700 [1200 GMT] in keeping with the decree issued by the Armenian president.

Beginning the session, President Levon Ter-Petrosyan noted one issue on the agenda—the Supreme Soviet chairman's statement. Ter-Petrosyan said the chairman already delivered his statement at a Supreme Soviet Presidium meeting and it was rejected. Ter-Petrosyan said he too disagrees with the Supreme Soviet Chairman Babken Ararktsyan's statement. [words indistinct]

Ararktsyan spoke about the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and Armenia and proposed ways out of it. Two diametrically opposed groups have emerged in parliament: The National Alliance and the Armenian Pannational Movement. The first wants to discuss the recognition of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. Consultations with legal experts showed that the two groups uphold opposing views and this prevents parliament adopting a decision and continuing its work, despite the Supreme Soviet having to adopt important documents.

Concluding his statement, Ararktsyan asked that his authority be terminated prematurely and a new Supreme Soviet chairman elected (?immediately). Ararktsyan said his request should not be debated but voted on immediately. The Supreme Soviet voted to reject Ararktsyan's request.

We will give further information about the session in our next newscasts.

Further on Decision

NC0907050292 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1650 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Report by Tsolik Saakyan]

[Text] The Armenian president called an extraordinary session of the Armenian Supreme Soviet today. The agenda included just one item: The statement by the chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet.

In a brief address, President Levon Ter-Petrosyan said that the meeting would discuss Babken Ararktsyan's request to resign. He added that the problem was already discussed at the Supreme Soviet Presidium, which rejected Ararktsyan's request. In line with accepted procedures, Ararktsyan then submitted his request to the Armenian president.

Babken Ararktsyan said:

[Begin recording] I want to make an announcement. First, however, I want to discuss briefly the current situation and make a suggestion to the Supreme Soviet on how to handle the current circumstances. I consider this my duty; as a chairman of the Supreme Soviet [words indistinct] I have to show leadership in extricating us from, I would not say the impasse, but rather the contradictory situation that has emerged in the republic and especially in the parliament.

I must first say that the present situation, especially the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, demands unity and cohesion among our people and parliament. We must do everything we can to (?resolve) these contradictions. Because ensuring Nagorno-Karabakh's defense is the most urgent problem, I call on the freedom fighters [words indistinct] to understand that these are routine parliamentary debates, and do not affect those who are fulfilling their sacred duty by defending the fatherland. This is the most important thing. The parliament and our entire people are unanimous on this issue; we have no differences. Our differences lie in the search for various [words indistinct] ways. We must examine each way and find concrete solutions. [passage indistinct]

We are unable to solve the most urgent problems facing the republic, especially the problem of Karabakh. I think that we should examine such issues in other forums, and come here with unanimous decisions to be adopted. Yet, all such efforts have failed. I do not want to argue about who is to blame and why—this will be done by historians; my intention is to correct our course and find a way out of this situation.

Because of the polarization in the parliament, two diametrically opposing groups have recently emerged. The National Alliance group incorporates seven parties and (?apparently) [words indistinct] it constitutes the majority. [words indistinct] we have to take this into account and find a way out of this situation. The National Alliance put forward a draft resolution asking the parliament to recognize the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic. [passage indistinct]

A contradictory situation exists. The parliament is unable to make a final decision on this question and proceed with its work. It is clear that we have to solve many important problems facing our republic in a very short time. This situation cannot continue. The parliament must unite the people [words indistinct]. It is also important that in solving this problem, we follow the Constitution. We must not allow a situation to develop in Armenia that violates the framework of law and the Constitution. [passage indistinct]

There is a contradiction between this draft and the law; I think that it (?violates) the law. [words indistinct]

I ask the Supreme Soviet to terminate my mandate ahead of schedule. If there is a majority in the Supreme Soviet that does not agree with my policy, it should terminate my mandate and elect a new Supreme Soviet chairman. This majority can then pursue its policy within the framework of the law [words indistinct] and this will be constitutional. I spoke about this at the Presidium that decided to convene a Supreme Soviet session. [passage indistinct]

The majority could hold a no-confidence vote, elect a new chairman, and continue to conduct the policy it favors within the framework of the law. [end recording]

The result of the vote was 81 opposed and 52 in favor, with 22 abstentions. Thus the parliament refused to accept Ararktsyan's resignation.

Speaking for a second time, Ararktsyan said that during debates on the Nagorno-Karabakh problem in previous sessions, a consensus had been reached on the second point of the draft. It says that any international or inter-state document that refers to Nagorno-Karabakh as part of Azerbaijan is unacceptable to Armenia.

To overcome the impasse, Ararktsyan proposed revising the point to read: Any international or inter-state document which contradicts the internationally accepted right of nations to self-determination is unacceptable to Armenia. [passage indistinct]

The parliament rejected the revision by a vote of 169 to three, with one abstention, thus retaining the view of the National Alliance. The vote was greeted with applause in the parliament.

The parliament will resume its regular sessions 13 July.

Presidential Press Service Denies CIS Decision

NC0807195192 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] The Armenian president's press service has issued the following statement: ITAR-TASS news agency reported that during the 6 July Moscow meeting of the leaders of the CIS countries a decision was adopted to consider the Nagorno-Karabakh problem an internal affair of sovereign Azerbaijan.

The Armenian president's press service is authorized to state that this in no way conforms with reality. Isa Gambarov, head of the Azerbaijani delegation, was the source of this report and he has intentionally distorted the facts. The Nagorno-Karabakh problem was not on the agenda of the meeting. However, in expressing concern at the exacerbation of the interethnic conflicts, the conferees broached the issue of sending peacekeeping troops within the framework of the CIS. Such a proposal was specifically made by Kazakhstan's President Nazarbayev. He also protested that allegedly none of the states involved in such conflicts have applied to the CIS leadership with a request for intervention. In reply, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan announced that he is taking this opportunity to formally ask the CIS leadership to send peacekeeping troops to Nagorno-Karabakh.

A heated debate developed around the idea of creating peacekeeping forces within the CIS structures and sending them to hot spots. Due to differences a decision was postponed.

During his news conference on the same day, Levon Ter-Petrosyan said in reply to a question that he has once more become convinced that the CIS lacks the relevant mechanisms to prevent interethnic conflicts.

Vice President Arutyunyan Leaves for PRC

NC0207201892 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Text] Gagik Arutyunyan, vice president and Armenian prime minister, has left as the head of a government delegation for the PRC at the invitation of its government. The two sides are expected to hold wide-ranging talks on bilateral relations and to sign several agreements for cooperation in various fields. Minister of State Ruben Chiftalaryan and heads of the Armenian Supreme Soviet permanent commissions, leading administration officials, and businessmen are among the members of the Armenian delegation.

Li Peng Comments on Relations

LD0307062792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1508 GMT 2 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Oreshin]

[Text] Beijing, 2 Jul—China is building its relations with the independent states which have arisen as a result of the collapse of the USSR on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence. This policy is yielding positive results. As the XINHUA News Agency reported, this was stated by Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, at talks with Gagik Arutyunyan, vice president and acting prime minister of Armenia, who arrived in the PRC today on an official visit.

China and Armenia, Li Peng emphasized, need to set in motion reciprocal contacts so that a way of developing mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation can be found as soon as possible. Cooperation needs to be established immediately where the conditions exist for this. Differences in ideology and the social structure do not need to be an obstacle to the "healthy and progressive" development of interstate relations, said the Chinese leader.

Gagik Arutyunyan noted Armenia's readiness to develop mutually beneficial cooperation with China in the political, economic, trade, and cultural spheres, as well as in other spheres. He stated that in Armenia, where reforms are still at an early stage, they are studying the Chinese experience very closely.

During the current visit, which is the first at such a high level since diplomatic relations were established between the PRC and Armenia in April of this year, it is expected that a number of agreements concerning trade and economic, scientific-technical, and cultural cooperation will be signed between the two countries.

Enterprises Visited

LD0407091192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0733 GMT 4 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Kirillov; from the "ITAR-TASS World and Home News-in-Brief" column for 4 July]

[Text] Beijing July 4 TASS—China and Armenia hope that cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries would grow stronger. This was stated on Friday [3 July] during a meeting between Wan Li, chairman of the standing committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, and Gagik Arutyunyan, vice-president and acting prime minister of Armenia, who is here on an official visit, the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO reports today.

Arutyunyan visited a shoe factory in Beijing where he described plans for the establishment of joint ventures with the participation of Armenian and Chinese capital. Several shops selling Chinese light-industry products are to open in Armenia.

Five Accords Signed

LD0407111392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0907 GMT 4 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Kirillov]

[Text] Beijing July 4 TASS—China and Armenia hope that cooperation between the Parliaments of the two countries would grow stronger. This was stated on Friday [4 July] during a meeting between Wan Li, chairman of the standing committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, and Gagik Arutyunyan, vice-president and acting prime minister of Armenia, who is here on an official visit, the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO reports today [4 July].

Arutyunyan visited a shoe-making factory in Beijing where he described plans for the establishment of joint ventures with the participation of Armenian and Chinese capital. Several shops selling Chinese light-industry products are to open in Armenia.

A joint communique and five agreements on cooperation between China and Armenia were signed during Arutyunyan's visit today.

They include a protocol on consultations between the two countries' Foreign Ministries, agreements on scientific and technical cooperation, on encouragement and mutual protection of investments, on contacts in the fields of culture, education and health care and on the granting of a government commodity loan to Armenia by China.

During a conversation following the signing of the documents, Li Peng, premier of China's Council of State, said Arutyunyan's visit "opens up new broad vistas" in Sino-Armenian relations.

Later in the day the Armenian delegation set out on a tour of the country.

Visit Concludes

NC0707195992 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 7 Jul 92

[Text] Gagik Arutyunyan, Armenian vice president and prime minister, has ended his official visit to the PRC. Arutyunyan's delegation, which visited the PRC at the invitation of the government, spent some time in the large industrial port-city of Yantai in [name indistinct] province on 5 July. In the afternoon, the delegation met with the provincial and city leaders. They examined trade and scientific cooperation as well as matters pertaining to the purchase and transport of grain with the credit the PRC Government is giving Armenia.

On 6 July, the delegation visited the Yantai development zone and became acquainted with the way the joint ventures and industrial-production enterprises producing artificial fibers, clocks, computers, and foodstuffs were managed and financed. They also discussed matters pertaining to the creation of Armenian-Chinese joint ventures.

Arutyunyan noted that the PRC's experience in (?industrial zones) could be implemented in Armenia, particularly in the earthquake zone. He said that there are some real possibilities to further develop economic ties with such zones and enterprises.

Arutyunyan and his delegation flew from Yantai to Beijing that same day. In Beijing they boarded an Armenian Civil Aviation plane and arrived in Yerevan on 7 July.

Azerbaijani Attacks in Karabakh Repulsed

LD0807123892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1110 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By ARMENPRESS correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Yerevan, 8 July— According to a report by the Nagorno-Karabakh republic press center, last night Azerbaijani formations tried to storm the river Terter with a view to taking over control of communications with Askeranskiy rayon, and also attacked the village of Mekhman in Mardakert rayon. In both cases the self-defense forces repulsed the enemy. According to preliminary reports, there are no fatalities on the Armenian side.

Also last night the Azerbaijani side shelled from "Grad" installations the rayon center of Martuni and positions of the Armenian detachments in Askeranskiy rayon.

As ARMENPRESS correspondents learned from Valeriy Gazaryan, member of the Presidium of the Nagorno-Karabakh Supreme Soviet, Stepanakert has practically run out of its bread reserves.

Shelling Reported on Border; Situation 'Tense'

NC0807131092 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1200 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] The situation remains tense in some Armenian border regions.

According to a report from the Armenian Interior Ministry, Kapan was hit with rockets and artillery on the evening of 7 July, causing some destruction and injuring two residents. Khachik in Vaykskiy Rayon and Yeraskhavan in Araratskiy Rayon were shelled by tanks and artillery during the early morning of 8 July. Two Yeraskhavan residents were killed.

Forces Prevented From Crossing Terter River

NC0807131192 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1200 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] According to the NAGORNO-KARABAKH NEWS AGENCY, Azerbaijani Army units, supported by armored cars and tanks and moving from Mardakert in a circuitous route, attacked the Armenian village of Mezmana during the night of 7 July. Following fierce battles, the enemy was forced to retreat after suffering substantial losses. Four Azerbaijani armored cars were hit.

The news agency also reports large Azerbaijani armed formations moving out of Aterk village, which they occupied on 4 July, to cross the Terter river. Faced with an artillery barrage from Armenian self-defense forces, the Azerbaijanis retreated to their original positions after suffering scores of losses.

Artillery and Grad rockets were used to fire on Armenian positions near the villages of Nakhichevanik and Pirdzhamal in Askeranskiy Rayon throughout yesterday from the Azerbaijani military base at Shelli in Agdamskiy Rayon. Return fire sent the enemy back to its defensive positions after having lost two armored cars.

The enemy shelled Martuni with Grad rockets early in the morning of 8 July from its bases in Amiranlar village. The shelling caused destruction but killed no one.

Update on Incidents

NC0807183292 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Dear listeners, we now present a report on the latest incidents in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] and on Armenia's border with Azerbaijan:

The recent wide-scale attack unleashed by the Azerbaijan National Army has endangered the Minsk conference on the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute. In other words, it has placed an obstacle in the path of the Minsk conference. An Armenian delegation is more actively participating in the arrangements being made within the CSCE in connection with the Nagorno-Karabakh dispute. The world continues to focus attention on the worsening situation in the region. The United Nations, international organizations, and the heads of state of several countries have reviewed Azerbaijan's continuing aggression and concluded that human rights in the NKR are being grossly violated. Azerbaijani officials are using every opportunity to suppress the national independence movement of the Armenian people in Artsakh [Nagorno-Karabakh], who have determined their future through a referendum on their ancestral lands in accordance with the norms of international law. They are also trying to impose their will on the Armenian people and force them to leave their homeland. Azerbaijani officials have been making an effort to camouflage their act of genocide against the Armenians by claiming that their policy is aimed at safeguarding Azerbaijan's territorial integrity.

Nagorno-Karabakh has never been a historic part of Azerbaijan. Nagorno-Karabakh, a historic land of the Armenian people, was placed under the jurisdiction of Azerbaijan together with the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR] as a result of the Bolshevik Party's criminal policy during the past 70 years. [passage indistinct]

The fate of the Armenians in the NAR, who made up half of the population of that autonomous republic in the past, is common knowledge. There is not a single Armenian living in the NAR. Most of them were massacred and the rest emigrated from their homeland. There are many similar cases in Azerbaijan that illuminate its nationalist policy toward minorities. The people in Nagorno- Karabakh have been waging a struggle to survive and to [words indistinct] during the past four years. However, Azerbaijani leaders have described this struggle as being aimed at undermining the Republic's territorial integrity. Considering this approach, we wish to ask the following: When has Nagorno-Karabakh ever been an inseparable part of Azerbaijan? [2-minute break in transmission]

Nakhichevanik and Pirdzhamal in Agdamskiy Rayon were fired on the previous night. The situation in Martuninskiy Rayon remains tense. The rayon center and (Garmishyka) came under fire. A child was wounded in the rayon center.

Azerbaijan is massing reinforcements and military hardware along NKR's entire border.

Tension continues to be felt in Armenia's border rayons. The units of the Azerbaijan Armed Forces fired on a KamAZ vehicle on a highway in Voskepar in Noyemberyanskiy Rayon at about 1800 on 6 July. The vehicle caught fire. No one was killed or wounded. The peaceful situation in Krasnoselskiy Rayon's Artsvashen was disrupted once again at 1100 on 7 July. The town was fired on. The defense lines in Yeraskh were also fired on from the NAR at 1500 on 7 July. The Armenian side was forced to take retaliatory measures.

We have regretfully brought all this information to your attention because the existing state of confrontation is pointless. Innocent people are being unnecessarily killed in this war. This state of affairs must not be allowed to continue. Armenia's leaders support the idea of resolving the problems and disputed matters through peaceful talks. This has been officially disclosed many times in the past. However, our neighbors continue to prefer to use violence. They continue to violate the rights of the Armenian people in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Two Russian Army Divisions Transfer to Armenia

LD0807181692 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] As the TURAN agency has discovered, two motorized infantry divisions of the 7th Russian Army stationed on Armenian territory have been transferred to the defense ministry of that republic. Earlier Russia transferred two motorized infantry divisions to Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan

Unilateral Cease-Fire Announced at CSCE Meeting

LD0907032492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Excerpt] As of 9 July, Azerbaijan will observe the cease-fire in Nagorno-Karabakh which it announced unilaterally. The decision on a cease-fire was announced by President of Azerbaijan Elchibey in Helsinki on 8 July. Elchibey told delegates to the CSCE meeting that he was departing from the text of his speech by omitting from it all the accusations levelled at Armenia. [passage omitted]

Cease-Fire 'Already' Violated

LD0807211192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 8 Jul 92

[By Tatyana Mitkova; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Reports have come in from Nagorno-Karabakh about military operations on both sides. It has become known that Azerbaijan has agreed to cease military actions beginning 9 July. We have just received a telegram from the press center of the permanent representation of Armenia. It states that at 2230 on 8 July a large-scale attack by the Azerbaijani Army started on the Mardakert front in the direction of the villages of Vaguaz and Mekhman. Approximately 80 tanks and APC's, and large numbers of infantry are taking part in the attack. Thus, Azerbaijan already has violated their declared deadline for a cease-fire, to have begun at 0000 on 9 July.

Ministry Reports 8 Jul Clashes

NC0807184792 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense Analytical Information Center made the following disclosure on 8 July:

Our fighters destroyed armed Armenian units near (Zerdakhar) and Kazanchi today. The two towns were liberated from enemy occupation after violent clashes. The enemy forces [words indistinct] fired on [name indistinct] today. Units of the Azerbaijan Armed Forces immediately returned fire, silencing the enemy. Clashes are taking place in [name indistinct].

The situation in Askeranskiy Rayon remains tense. National army units and troops affiliated with the Ministry of Internal Affairs are warding off enemy attacks. [Placename indistinct] in Fizulinskiy Rayon was fired on at 1230 today. Our fighters silenced the enemy. [passage indistinct]

Towns in Zangelankiy Rayon were fired on from Armenian territory today. One member of the national army was wounded. Our fighters returned fire, silencing the enemy.

The situation in the vicinity of [name indistinct], (?Agtepe), Yevlakh, Kedabek, and Kubatly has been relatively peaceful.

Sadarak in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic has been fired on from Armenia intermittently. National army units have warded off the enemy attacks.

Armenian Villages Retaken

TA0807200792 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Report by Yavuz Yorulmaz from Azerbaijan]

[Excerpts] We are now in the Askeran region of Nagorno-Karabakh. Behind me, you can see the strategically important village of Nakhichevanik. This village was retaken from the Armenians by the Azerbaijani forces on 13 June. The Armenians, however, a few days ago started attacks to regain the village. The Azerbaijani National Army is fighting back with all its might to prevent this. [passage omitted]

The clashes between the Azerbaijani forces and the Armenians intensified today in Fizuli, Akdere [Mardakert], and Zangelan regions. The Azerbaijani National Army retook the villages of Kazanci and Zerdehak villages in the Akdere region. The Armenians fired from (Hadrut) region in Nagorno-Karabakh at the village of Kacar in Fizuli. Two Azeri Turks were killed in the clashes.

The Azerbaijani National Army retook the villages of Golyatak and Canyatak in Terter region and the Beylik and Umutlu villages in Kelbadzhar region.

39 Populated Areas Seized

LD0807210592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The newspaper of the Russian forces in the Transcaucasus has reported that 39 populated areas in Nagorno-Karabakh have already come under the control of the Azerbaijani side. A large subunit of the Armenian side has been eliminated in the Gadrutskiy rayon. Yerevan claims that this offensive has cost the adversary almost 40 tanks.

Recognition: 'Continuation of War'

TA0907090792 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 0858 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] Helsinki, July 9 (AA)—Azerbaijani President Abulfaz Elchibey said on Wednesday [8 July] that the recognition of the breakaway Armenian state in Karabakh by the Armenian Republic meant the continuation of war in the region.

Elchibey, who is currently participating in the summit of the CSCE (Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe), reacted to a story of ARMENPRESS news agency which announced the same day that the Armenian parliament had decided to recognize the breakaway Armenian state declared in the Karabakh enclave of Azerbaijan.

"The meaning of this is the continuation of war. Armenians have violated international laws," Elchibey told AA.

Azeris were driven out of the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave of Azerbaijan by the Armenians in May, but succeeded in recapturing Mardakert, in the north-east of the enclave, last week.

Some 2,000 people have been killed in four years of fighting between Armenians and Azeris over the region.

Nagorno-Karabakh, a region within the Azeri territory, is under the rule of Azerbaijan under international agreements.

The decision of the Armenian parliament is a violation of the CSCE decision which underlines that Karabakh belongs to Azerbaijan.

Damage, Casualties Described

LD0907114692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1039 GMT 9 Jul 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 9 Jul—It is reported from Stepanakert that Azerbaijan has broken the cease-fire declared by it in Nagorno-Karabakh, and has started a new, wide-scale offensive in Mardakertskiy Rayon.

The Karabakh News Agency reports today that the offensive by Azerbaijani armed formations on the Armenian villages of Vaguas, Mekhmana, and Pogosagomer that began on the night of 8 July, continued all last night. The action was carried out with the support of 40 tanks and 40 APC's. The agency reports that at the same time heavy bombing attacks on these and other villages of the Mardakertskiy Rayon, and on settlements in the Martuninskiy Rayon of Nagorno-Karabakh—situated quite far from the zone of combat actions—were carried out by Azerbajani SU-25 ground-attack aircraft.

By this morning the self-defense forces of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (NKR) managed to repel the Azeri attack in all directions, states the Karabakh News Agency report. According to the same source, the Azerbaijani side lost at least 40 soldiers and five T-72 tanks, and the losses of the NKR self-defense forces are being clarified.

The same night, several people were killed as a result of an attack by Azerbaijani subunits on a group of refugees from Mardakertskiy Rayon of Nagorno-Karabakh who were on their way to Armenia. Several dozen people have been taken hostage.

Early this morning Azerbaijani SU-25 planes resumed their bombing of Armenian settlements in Mardakertskiy and Askeranskiy rayons of Nagorno-Karabakh. It has become known from official sources that the village of Noragyukh, which is in the central part of Askeranskiy Rayon of the NKR and far from the hostilities, was worst hit. Ten civilians were wounded there.

Foreign Ministry on Cease-Fire

OW0907134992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1303 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of Azerbaijan replied positively to a letter from the chairman of the Minsk conference to be held on the Armenian-Azeri conflict, Mario Rafaelli, calling for a cease-fire for 30 days beginning with midnight July 9.

But, as our correspondent has been told at the ministry, the cease-fire has been already violated by the Armenian side which has been shelling with artillery and missiles villages in the Agdam, Jebrail, Fizulin, and Kazakh districts of Azerbaijan since 3:00 am, July 9. According to Azerbaijan's Foreign and Defence Ministries the fire has not been returned.

Clashes in Border Rayons 6-7 Jul Described

NC0807142592 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 7 Jul 92

[Text] The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense Analytical Information Center has disclosed the following:

Azerbaijan Armed Forces units attacked Armenia's expeditionary corps units and freed [placenames indistinct] in Agdere Rayon today. [passage indistinct] The Armenian expeditionary corps units are massing near Askeran and [placename indistinct]. The brigands in [placename indistinct] on the night of 6 July fired on several towns within their range in Agdamskiy Rayon, using various types of arms. The enemy tried to enter Pirdzhamal and Nakhichevanik after shelling the two towns with artillery guns, but the Azerbaijan National Army's self-sacrificing fighters returned fire and forced the enemy to retreat. Three enemy helicopters took off to attack Azerbaijani positions in the two towns at 0900 this morning. Thanks to our fighters, the helicopters were forced to abort their attack and the Armenian pilots returned to base. In view of the failed helicopter attack, the Armenians sent out two aircraft [words indistinct], that flew to an unknown destination.

Our trained military units have reinforced their positions in the direction of Askeran city. The Armenian military units' armed activies are being carefully watched.

The town of Agbaz in Fizulinskiy Rayon was fired on with missile launchers from Machkalashen at 1500 today. Immediate return fire silenced the enemy. The Armenians also fired sporadically on Sur from [name indistinct] heights. Azerbaijani units are taking measures to silence the enemy positions.

The border towns in Zangelanskiy, Kel'badzharskiy, and Kedabekskiy Rayons were fired on from Armenian territory last night and today. Armenian Army units tried to violate our republic's border near [placename indistinct] in Kel'badzharskiy Rayon, but the Azerbaijani forces returned fire and forced the enemy to retreat.

The situation in the other rayons is relatively peaceful right now.

Iran Accused of Supplying Nagorno-Karabakh

OW0807194592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1810 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The information center of the Azeri Interior Ministry told "IF" [INTERFAX] that "Iran is sending Armenian units in Nagorno-Karabakh all necessaries—from food to ammunition". The Interior Ministry official said Azeris found large stores of food, medicine, bandages, fuel, ammunition, and weapons in the Karabakh center of Mardakert, evidence of ministry's claim. The packing materials indicated that the products had come from Iran.

Nakhichevan Official on Humanitarian Aid

NC0207071992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Turkish 1530 GMT 1 Jul 92

[Text] Gasan Zeynalov, who represents the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR] in Baku, has thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran for the humanitarian aid it gives the NAR. Reporting on Zeynalov's statement, made in the Iranian Embassy in Baku, Baku Radio said that Iran dispatched 153 truckloads of provisions and 35 tanker trucks of fuel to the NAR in the past few days. Iran's aid came after the situation between the NAR and Armenia deteriorated and transportation between the NAR and Azerbaijan was interrupted.

Nakhichevan's Geydar Thanks Iran for Assistance

LD0407135192 Tehran IRNA in English 1225 GMT 3 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow, July 3, IRNA—In a telephone contact with Iranian Ambassador to Baku Asghar Nehavandiyan, President of the Autonomous Republic of Nakhichevan, Geydar Aliyev Thursday thanked the Islamic Republic for her relief aid to that republic.

Aliyev emphasized that the permission given by Iranian Government to the crossing of truckloads of foodstuff, drugs and other immediate supplies for Nakhichevan via Iranian border and its delivery of brotherly and humanitarian aid were "vital" for the Nakhichevan people.

In an interview with IZVESTIYA daily, published in Moscow, Nakhichevan president also thanked Iran's efforts in delivering relief aid to the republic.

In another interview with the television of Baku he praised Iran's efforts in resolving the problems of the people of Nakhichevan and Azerbaijan during the Karabakh conflict.

Weapons Confiscated by Decree in Nakhichevan

LD0607162892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0940 GMT 6 Jul 92

[Text] Nakhichevan (Republic of Azerbaijan), 6 July (AZERINFORM-TASS)—Over the past week a machinegun, 2 pistols, and 13 Kalashnikov rifles have been confiscated from members of the public by the Nakhichevan police. The Nakhichevan-based independent news agency REAL reported on 6 July that the confiscations are being carried out by the local law enforcement agencies following a decree by the Azerbaijani president to disarm illegal groups active within the republic.

According to AZERINFORM, police raids and tight road controls in the autonomous republic have prevented a number of illegal acts and reduced the crime rate.

Russian Troops Want Out of Nakhichevan

MK0907083192 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Jul 92 pp 1, 3

[Report by Natalya Pachegina under the "Army" rubric: "It Is Better When an Assault Rifle Stands in a Pyramid. But Russian Officers in Nakhichevan Today Walk About with Weapons"]

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandr Torgunov, deputy commander for rear services of an antiaircraft missile regiment of the 75th Division stationed in Azerbaijan's Nakhichevan Republic, has arrived in Moscow to meet with Russian Federation Defense Minister Pavel Grachev and, if necessary, even with the president himself, the petition bearer stubbornly reiterates. The lieutenant colonel's family, like those of the division's other officers, was long ago moved to Russia. One month ago the regimental deputy commander himself was a hostage, but he is not quite sure whose. Several hours under the barrels of assault rifles confirmed the thought that it is necessary to act without waiting for decisions from the capital.

It is the cadre officer's view that unpredictable events have recently been brewing on the territory of Nakhichevan. The Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict has today escalated into a local war with all its characteristic attributes: people killed and injured, hostages, and refugees. Russian commanders, who have willy-nilly found themselves mixed up in the political struggle inside the republic, are experiencing the effect on themselves and on their relatives of the extremism of the People's Front of Azerbaijan [PFA], so Torgunov said. Today PFA emissaries are trying their hardest to get Nakhichevan involved in the Armenian-Azerbaijani war, Torgunov said. Armed formations are being created on the republic's territory for this purpose. In this situation the Supreme Medzhlis and Defense Committee of the Nakhichevan Republic, in a hurry to get round their opponents, are demanding that the Republic of Azerbaijan Command in Nakhichevan hand over arms and hardware.

But we cannot take anyone's side, the commander said, and so we are forced to act as a buffer, on the receiving end of fire and anger. Even though the war has had a seriously damaging effect on people, the officer has repeatedly seen for himself that the Republic's population respects the Russian soldiers. Although Torgunov acknowledges that the situation in the republics of the former Union and the "big-time politics" of their current presidents has turned the once unified division, which earned General Gromov's grudging praise, into an undermanned association of people who make suspicious enquiries to ascertain their colleagues' nationality. These sentiments are promoted by emissaries from sovereign republics. Aleksandr Torgunov mentioned a colorful woman from Ukraine empowered to gather up servicemen of her own ethnic group around Azerbaijan. Incidentally, Torgunov is very much counting on being heard in Grachev's office: The division's officers possess proof that Ukraine is giving Azerbaijan military assistance.

The emissary from the 75th Division emphasized that its personnel are morally and physically exhausted. The regiments' undermanning has resulted in officers' joining details. Soldiers, who are at just 5-15 percent of the actual strength, are unable to really guard military camps or to prevent robberies and destruction of army hardware. Thus, the lieutenant colonel said, a radiotechnical battalion in the small town of Dzhagry was pillaged, and the division's Kevrakskiy Regiment was attacked.

The division's leadership, Torgunov said, is seriously concerned that local combat groupings or PFA formations are trying increasingly frequently to use blackmail and direct violence to make officers of the Russian Army participate in combat operations on someone's side or to induce them to commit a military crime—selling weapons. Azerbaijan and Nakhichevan, as well as Armenian commanders, are interested in skilled cadres of the former Soviet Army, not to mention Army hardware.

In the opinion of the leadership of the Nakhichevan Division, Russia now has no strategic, economic, or moral interests in this region of the Transcaucasus. Therefore, servicemen believe, the Russian Army's withdrawal from there must be carried out as quickly as possible. Particularly as officers have taken fully to heart the motto of the moment, "Saving drowning people..." and are offering their command their own plan for accommodating servicemen in Russian cities. They are convinced that their knowledge and experience can still be useful to the motherland, although everyone hopes that their professionalism will be required in civilian life.

Retired Turkish Officers Appointed as Advisers

NC0807142792 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish 5 Jul 92 pp 1, 16

[Report by Ali Tevfik Berber and Ender Deger from Ankara and Baku: "Retired Turkish Generals in Azerbaijan"]

[Excerpt] Over 10 retired Turkish generals and officers have gone to Azerbaijan as military advisers. A lieutenant general, whose name has not been disclosed, has been appointed as President Abulfaz Elchibey's military adviser. Turkish military advisers in Azerbaijan have reportedly played an important role in the success of the Azerbaijani military units against the Armenian militia.

Retired Turkish generals and officers have begun serving in Azerbaijan after several people from Turkey took part in the war in that republic as volunteers. ccording to the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the General Staff, over 10 retired generals and officers recently went to Azerbaijan. Acting in line with President Abulfaz Elchibey's request for assistance from Turkey "to establish Azerbaijan's regular Army," the General Staff drew up a list of retired generals and officers who could serve in Azerbaijan. They were later asked whether or not they wished to serve in that republic. Those who wished to do so were sent to Azerbaijan. Military sources have taken care not to disclose the names of the military advisers that Azerbaijan has received from Turkey. One retired lieutenant general has reportedly been appointed presidential adviser in line with President Elchibey's request. [passage omitted]

Caspian Flotilla Council on Criminal Acts

PM0807145392 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jul 92 p 3

[Report by Captain Second Rank V. Vladimirov under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Caspian Flotilla Military Council Adopts Appeal to Azerbaijan Leadership"]

[Text] Baku—After examining the situation that has developed around certain flotilla units, the Caspian Flotilla Military Council deemed it necessary to send a statement to the state organs and leaders of Azerbaijan. This statement says that incidents of criminal attacks and looting, illegal actions against individual officials, and blatant interference in the internal affairs of the formation have become more frequent in recent times.

For instance, the unauthorized, illegal seizure of vehicles is continuing. As a result of such actions (more than 50 vehicles have been hijacked) a very difficult serious situation has arisen in the flotilla over the material and technical supply of units and ships. More than 250 firearms, several tens of thousands of rounds of ammunition of various kinds, explosives, uniforms, and food have been stolen. High-handed behavior regarding apartments belonging to officers and warrant officers of the flotilla is intensifying.

This represents an unacceptable state of affairs in the civilized world and is causing officers, warrant officers, petty officers, and seamen dismay and alarm, and is destabilizing the situation in military collectives. The Military Council believes that, pending the adoption of specific political decisions at an intergovernmental level, illegal actions should on no account be taken against naval facilities on the territory of Azerbaijan.

The Military Council, the statement says, earnestly and urgently entreats all organs of state power to take immediate measures to prevent any illegal actions and to ensure the normal functioning of the Caspian Flotilla's military collective; to make a legal assessment of incidents of the theft of equipment, arms, and munitions; and to call the guilty parties to account.

Iran Seen as Factor for Regional Stability

LD0207142692 Tehran IRNA in English 1244 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Text] Moscow, Jul 2, IRNA—First vice-speaker of the Azerbaijan parliament, Tamrerlan Karayev, in a meeting with Iranian ambassador to Baku, 'Ali Akbar Nehavandian today, underlined the need for the expansion of ties between the two neighbouring states.

Karayev termed Iran's firmness, power and its growing impact on the world scene as a "factor for regional stability".

Nahavandian emphasized on the Islamic Republic's principled foreign policies including the Iranian nation's serious opposition to the threats of superpowers and global arrogance.

Karayev felt grateful to Iran for its aid to Azerbaijan and the Autonomous Republic of Nakhichevan at this critical juncture.

He added without elaborating that Azerbaijani officials were ready to stand against any possible hurdles thrown in the way of expansion of their ties with Tehran.

Iranian Ambassador Meets With Foreign Minister

LD0207195192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1830 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Text] The foreign minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan met with our country's ambassador to Baku on 2 July. The Azerbaijani foreign minister stressed the necessity for expanding relations between Iran and the Republic of Azerbaijan and announced that the Republic of Azerbaijan's embassy will open in Tehran soon.

The Iranian ambassador to Baku met with Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Tofik Gasymov this afternoon and handed him a written message from Foreign Minister Velayati.

The Azerbaijani foreign minister expressed his thanks for the message of our country's foreign minister and said he hoped to visit Iran soon.

Pipeline Agreement Signed With Iran, Ukraine

*NC0607102592 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English
1610 GMT 3 Jul 92*

[Text] Baku 03.07.92 (ASSA-IRADA)—The preliminary volume of investments into supergas-main [as received] for delivering of gas from Iran to the western Ukraine is 12 billion U.S. dollars.

The agreement on building the supergas-main was signed by Iran, Azerbaijan and the Ukraine. There hasn't been any precedent of such project according to its scale, said Tariel Guseynov, the director general of Azerbaijan Industrial Union "Aztransgas". This gas-pipe will consist of 3 branches (each of them 4 thousand km. long), approximately 40 compressors. The total capacity of the pipe will be 75 billion cubic metres of gas per year. The first branch will be put into operation in 1996. The further plans will account delivering of gas to the west Europe. The supergas-main will produce Azerbaijan profit of 300 million dollars per year.

Joint Education Protocol Signed With Iraq

*JN0707114992 Baghdad INA in Arabic
0800 GMT 7 Jul 92*

[Text] Moscow, 7 Jul (INA)—Iraq and Azerbaijan have signed a joint protocol on bilateral cooperation in the cultural and educational fields.

The protocol, which was signed for Iraq by Education Minister Hikmat 'Abdallah al-Bazzaz and for Azerbaijan by Education Minister Rafik Feyzullayev, provides for expanding and enhancing bilateral cultural and educational cooperation and exchanging expertise, information, and delegation visits.

Azerbaijani Deputy Prime Minister Saridon Oglyov [name and title as received] has received Hikmat 'Abdallah al-Bazza and the delegation accompanying him. They discussed the prospects of bilateral cooperation in cultural and educational spheres.

Foreign Minister Meets With Israeli Envoy

*LD0507120292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0900 GMT 5 Jul 92*

[Excerpt] The Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry reports that Arye Levin, Israeli ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, is in Azerbaijan. He met Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Tofik Gasymov at the Foreign Ministry. [passage omitted noting that the Azerbaijani president will visit Israel]

Regime Favors Speedy Parliamentary Elections

*OW0207181692 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1530 GMT 2 Jul 92*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The new Azeri regime would like to hold parliamentary elections as soon as possible. However, this depends on how quickly parties can be formed, as, the government feels that the elections must be held on a multiparty basis, Isa Gambarov, Speaker of the Azeri Parliament said in reply to a question from "IF" [INTERFAX] at a press conference in Baku Thursday [2 July].

Commenting on reports in the Moscow press that the Russian language is being barred from Azeri colleges and schools, and teachers were being laid off, Gambarov said that Russian has the same status as other foreign languages in the republic.

New Political Party Holds First Congress

*LD0407130792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1706 GMT 3 Jul 92*

[By AZERINFORM correspondent Elchin Sardarov for TASS]

[Text] Baku July 3 TASS—An institutive congress of Azerbaijan's Party for National Independence (APNI) opened in Baku on Friday [3 July].

The party has proclaimed the creation of an independent Azeri state relying on national and ethnic traditions of Islam, cultural and spiritual unity of Turkic people among its main goals.

The delegates to the congress, which is being attended by foreign delegations, are to adopt the programme and the charter of the APNI, discuss the report of the party's leader Etibar Mamyedov and elect the party's leaders.

The party comes out for the priority of national interests in politics, for private property and free entrepreneurship in economy.

In the sphere of ethnic policy, the party recognizes the inviolability of human rights, the rights of all ethnic minorities living in Azerbaijan, freedom of religion, development of the national language and culture.

Oil Cooperation Discussed with Oman Minister

*NC0707125792 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English
0955 GMT 7 Jul 92*

[Text] Azerbaijani oil will be transferred to the Black and Mediterranean Sea-ports. This will become possible if the Caspian regional oil-piping consortium is established. This issue was debated today by Mr. Rakhim Guseynov, the prime-minister of Azerbaijan, and Mr. Sa'id Bin-Ahmad al-Shanfari, the oil and mineral resources minister of Oman. They have agreed on the ways of realization the memorandum on bilateral cooperation of the two countries in the sphere of oil-industry signed as far as the beginning of this year in Oman, ASSA-IRADA reporter became to know at Azerbaijan's cabinet of ministers. [sentence as received]

Two Oil Research Centers To Be Established

NC0207194792 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1259 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Text] The usage of scientific and productional potential of Azerbaijan in the sphere of oil and gas-drilling and recovery of its former Oil Academy glory is the goal of two research centres being founded in our republic. They will study the geochemistry rock and oil, the layer water and the core by means of petrographophysical [as received] analyses. Akif Narimanov, the 'Caspmorneftgas' Production Association deputy-general director, said that these research centres are to be able to compete. Therefore it was decided to found them on the terms of contest jointly or together with foreign partners. Azerbaijan is rich with oil resources and the centres won't be short of work, he said. This can be considered his official invitation to leading world oil centres to participate in the contest. Anyone may send in proposals Production Association 'Caspmorneftgas' within a month. [as received]

Georgia

Coup Attempt Discussed, Curfew Extended

PM0807145192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Jul 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Besik Urigashvili: "Tbilisi Curfew Extended Until 1 August"]

[Text] Tbilisi—Contrary to reports on Ostankino TV news programs of intensive exchanges of fire and loss of life in Tskhinvali, observers from the joint commission, including representatives of the Georgian and Ossetian sides, as well as the Transcaucasus Military District, note that on the whole representatives of both sides are complying with the terms of the truce.

Only sporadic exchanges of automatic fire are being recorded, and there are no dead and wounded. The observers also note that a fundamentally new situation has emerged in Tskhinvalskiy Rayon in the last three days, and regional meetings between the commanders of the Georgian and Ossetian armed formations may be the guarantee of a peaceful solution to the conflict.

The headquarters of the Georgian National Guard, in the immediate vicinity of the conflict zone, has reported that the Georgian side has withdrawn heavy equipment to the village of Tkviavi, 15 km from Tskhinvali. The commanders of the Ossetian armed formations have taken similar action to withdraw heavy equipment.

However, the situation in the Georgian capital is rather complex. A political assessment of the 24 June seizure of the TV center was made at a State Council session. At this session E. Shevardnadze for the first time allowed himself to speak in rather harsh terms of Georgia's ex-president. He said that everything should be called by its proper name: Gamsakhurdia is a proponent of fascist ideology, and that ideology is antihuman and illegal. The actions of the ex-president, who is setting brother against brother, can only be regarded as a crime against his own people, Shevardnadze stressed.

As was stated at the State Council session, many armed supporters of Gamsakhurdia managed to get away during the seizure of the TV center by government forces. According to law enforcement organs and special services, the number of armed supporters of Gamsakhurdia in Tbilisi is estimated at 150-200 people. At the same time, in the opinion of many journalists following the development of the situation, the ex-president's supporters will scarcely be able to assemble a significant number of people for a rally.

The final analysis of the 24 June events as given by the State Council is rather harsh: an attempt to restore a fascist, national-socialist regime. There are also some figures characterizing the action—51 people were arrested, 25 investigators are conducting the interrogation, and 29 officers of Georgia's internal troops went over to the Gamsakhurdia supporters' side and helped them to seize weapons and equipment at a Georgian internal troops unit. Twelve of these officers have been arrested, but the rest managed to escape. It transpires from the interrogations that the arrested leaders of the Zviadist resistance say that this was merely a rehearsal and more resolute actions will follow soon. The State Council regarded these claims as a bluff to some extent, but nevertheless has taken precautionary measures. The curfew has been extended until 1 August. Steps are being taken to step up the work of the special services and law enforcement organs.

NIP Appeals for Halt to Russian 'Aggression'

AU0207075292 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 23 Jun 92 p 2

[Unattributed report under rubric "In the Parties and Movements"]

[Text] **The Georgian National Independence Party [NIP] has officially appealed to the UN, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the CSCE, the West European Union, the EC, the European parliament, the countries of the world, and all international organizations.**

In the appeal, the party accuses Russia of overt armed aggression against Georgia and of interference in the country's internal affairs. The NIP, with the aim of securing stabilization in Georgia, resolving the interethnic conflict, halting military aggression, and generally protecting and guaranteeing Georgia's state independence, has requested that international experts from the aforementioned organizations come to Georgia and UN multinational military forces be sent.

In connection with the aforementioned fact of aggression, an appeal has been sent to Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation.

Guard Staying Until Order Established in Region

OW0807182592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1539 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On the eve of his meeting with the representatives of the public in Tsalendzhikh on July 8 the deputy chairman of the Georgian State Council Djaba Ioseliani declared that "the detachments of the national guard will leave the Western Georgia only after an order is established in this region".

The supporters of the ousted Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia attacked a "Mkhedrioni" detachment in Tsalendzhikh on July 6.

Ioseliani announced on his intention to help the local population stressing that "bandits are terrorizing the population of the Western Georgia and the local people are forced to pay tribute which is delivered to Gamsakhurdia via the Caucasian mountains".

"We shall put an end to it once and forever," Ioseliani said.

In his interview with the Georgian TV Djaba Ioseliani reported that in the result of Gamsakhurdia supporters' attack against Tsalendzhikh 8 combatants of "Mkhedrioni" were killed and 15 wounded. The attackers lost about 20 people.

Sigua Interviewed on Ties, Regional Security

NC0407140192 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 22 Jun 92 p 3

["Exclusive" interview with Georgian Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua by an unidentified RESALAT correspondent in Switzerland; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Could you please tell us where relations between Iran and Georgia stand and how do you view their positions?

[Sigua] The relations between Iran and Georgia have historic roots and longstanding historical and cultural bonds. Recently a Georgian delegation visited Iran and exchanged views with Iranian officials on political and economic issues. Now we are at a stage in diplomatic relations when each is opening an embassy in the other's country.

Talks have also been held on the export of gas and oil to Georgia. Iran has agreed to sell 2 million cubic meters of gas to Georgia and is drawing up a list of materials it plans to purchase from Georgia to establish a balance in trade. If it wants, it can also be paid in cash for its gas exports.

One of the issues discussed in Tehran was a road link, an autobahn, between the two countries, connecting Iran and Georgia across the Black Sea. We also reached agreement on industry, in machinery manufacture, and other fields.

[Correspondent] How is the Georgian economy after the recent upheavals and the independence of the former Soviet republics?

[Sigua] The Georgian economy is in a serious state; one of the main problems is the shortage of energy and gas, on which we have held talks with Iran and have reached an agreement. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] What is the status of your relations with the West and the United States?

[Sigua] Our relations with Europe and the United States are normal, but we hope to bring about security in this region with the cooperation of Iran, Russia, Turkey, and Armenia and will not accept any foreign interference. We must make decisions on the region's issues and problems.

Georgia is studying Iran's role in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and has invited Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Iran to visit Georgia and hold talks. Georgia concurs with Iran in its views on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and believes that following talks between Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia, Turkey and Iran should also join in. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Which countries are apprehensive about Iran's role as a mediator and want to undermine this role?

[Sigua] I have no documentary evidence, but I believe Russia and Turkey opposed Iran's role and cooperation.

[Correspondent] How do you view the future of the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan?

[Sigua] Our president held talks with Armenia and the new leaders in Azerbaijan and concludes that the Iranian proposals should continue and that the new Azerbaijani Government obviously favors Tehran's peace proposals.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Finland

OW0807152292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1316 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Chairman of the Georgian State Council Eduard Shevardnadze and the President of Finland Mario Koivisto agreed to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries at their meeting in Helsinki on July 8, the assistant Chairman of the Georgian State Council Teimuraz Stepanov told "IF" [INTERFAX].

Chechen Foreign Minister Meets Various Leaders

LD2106173892 Tbilisi Georgian Radio in Russian 2100 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Shamil Beno, foreign minister of the Chechen Republic, has arrived in Georgia for a visit. He met and held talks with Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze and other leaders of the republic. Prior to his flight home, Mr. Shamil Beno was received by Tengiz Kitovani, Georgia's acting first deputy prime minister and defense minister. The guest relayed greetings and wishes from President Dzhokhar Dudayev to Mr. Kitovani for the development of constructive relations. The peoples of the North Caucasus, he said, assign Georgia a stabilizing role in the Transcaucasus. Chechnya plays a similar role in the Northern Caucasus. Peaceful relations between the two are vitally important for all the peoples of these regions.

For understandable reasons, the city of Groznyy and Chechnya as a whole have been regarded recently as the organizational center for acts of terrorism committed in Georgia. Furthermore, there has been an attempt from the Abkhaz side to set up an armed detachment within the context of the Confederation of Highland Peoples and to send assistance to the Ossetians. Mr. Kitovani complained to the Chechen delegation about these two things. Mr. Beno said he did not have enough information about this. If specific evidence is presented to him, he will take steps. The Georgian defense minister named (Neskromorukha), who has been involved in terrorist activities in Georgia and detained for bearing arms in Chechnya. An aircraft was dispatched several times to bring him back to Georgia, but the efforts were fruitless. Mr. Beno promised to help in this matter. He also proposed bilateral cooperation in coordinating the work of law enforcement agencies.

As for the establishment of an armed Abkhaz detachment, the guest said that the Chechen Republic has banned armed formations bearing allegiance to the Confederation of Highland Peoples from operating on its territory.

The sides also touched on the prospects for economic cooperation. Among other things, Chechnya intends to establish intensive economic ties with the Near East. The nearest transit route for this lies through Georgia. Mr. Tengiz Kitovani suggested that a road could be built through Khevsuretiya. He promised that, as a counterweight to the Russian economic blockade against Chechnya, Georgia will grant the republic the economic status of a favored nation.

The sides expressed the hope that relations between Chechnya and Georgia will be fruitful.

Shevardnadze Receives German Minister on 2 Jul

OW0207185292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1615 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Thursday [2 July] the Chairman of the State Council Eduard Shevardnadze received the deputy Foreign Minister of Germany Helmut Scheffer [name as received] who is on a working visit in Tbilisi. According to "IF" [INTERFAX], they discussed issues aimed at deepening of bilateral relations, a political situation in Georgia, possibilities of rendering assistance to Georgia to stabilize the situation, problems related with the preparation of the CSCE's conference in Helsinki.

Wednesday [1 July] Shevardnadze had a meeting with a representative of the Armenian charity society in the United States Mr. David Zenyan. He portrayed [for] the guest the centuries-old fraternal relations of the two people and reported about his June meeting with the Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan. He said that Georgia is waiting for his visit in the second half of July. Zenyan informed Shevardnadze about the wish of the business circles of the Armenian diaspora in the US to render humanitarian and other kinds of assistance to the Georgian people. Shevardnadze greeted this strive for help.

Cooperation Discussed

OW0207212892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 2 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Georgian Premier Tenghiz Sigua received today [2 July] the German Deputy Foreign Minister Helmut Schefer [name as received] who had arrived in Tbilisi accompanied by a large group of experts to help surmount the economic crisis. Helmut Schefer promised to help bring to life a number of projects which are of special importance for the Georgian economy. The reconstruction of the sea port in Poti, aiming at the increasing of the freight turnover up to 40 million tons [as received] a year, building of the Poti-Baku and Poti-Dzhulfa highways and laying of the Baku-Black Sea oil pipeline are among them.

The German diplomat says that German companies are interested in investments in the Georgian economy, but they must be sure of the full political stabilization in the republic.

'Full Support' for Reforms

OW0307184992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1610 GMT 3 Jul 92

[Prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Chairman of Georgia's State Council Eduard Shevardnadze received on Thursday [2 July] a message from the German Chancellor Helmut Kohl expressing full support to reforms in the republic aimed at creating a democracy. Helmut Kohl highly evaluated Eduard Shevardnadze's energetic steps to settle the conflict in Ossetia.

The message was delivered by Germany's Deputy Foreign Minister Helmut Shaeffer who summed up his visit to Georgia by saying that Germany is ready to render concrete aid to that republic, particularly by credits and investments. Germany, he said, is interested in stabilizing the situation in the Caucasus and developing mutually beneficial economic cooperation with it.

German businessmen, he continued, are particularly attracted by prospects of reconstructing the seaport at Poti and of building a road from there to Julfa which may constitute the shortest route from Europe to Asia. Germany could well help in those projects.

Talks Between Georgia, Abkhazia Continue

LD0607062292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 4 Jul 92

[Text] The IPRINDA news agency reports that Georgian and Abkhazian parliamentarians are continuing their talks in Sukhumi. According to Sergey Bogabshe, head of the Abkhazian delegation, they failed to agree on several issues. There will be a fuller session on 5 July. The Georgian delegation is demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Vazha Zelandiya, who was appointed in violation of the Georgian Constitution. They demand his replacement with Napoleon Meskhe, a prominent Abkhazia neurosurgeon. They also demand a halt to violations of the rights of Georgians living in Abkhazia and to the creation of an ethnocracy by the autonomous republic's Abkhaz minority. If the Georgians' demands are not met, a mass civil disobedience campaign will resume on Monday [6 July].

'Certain Improvement' Noted

LD0807084592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Text] Georgian Defense Minister Tengiz Kitovani arrived in the town of Sukhumi on 7 July. Tengiz Ablotia, IPRINDA agency correspondent, has the details:

[Ablotia] He was accompanied by representatives of Ossetia and several deputies of the Russian Supreme Soviet. They met with representatives of the Abkhaz leadership and command of the autonomous republic's internal troops. According to preliminary information, the object of the visit is to invite Abkhaz servicemen to join the multinational separating forces which are being formed. Their function will include carrying out a peacekeeping role in Tskhinvali region.

The Georgian defense minister's visit to Sukhumi testifies to a certain improvement in Georgian-Abkhaz mutual relations. This was also shown by the first stage of a meeting between Georgian and Abkhaz deputations of the autonomous republic's Supreme Soviet, which ended the other day.

They reached a preliminary accord, one of the clauses of which includes the issue of the resignation of Vazha Zarandiya, prime minister of the autonomous republic. His appointment to this post was assessed in a sharply negative way by the Georgian public. The issue of the prime minister was put forward as one of the conditions for a possible settlement of Georgian-Abkhaz differences by the deputies who declared a boycott of the Supreme Soviet.

As (Sergey Bagats), one of the leaders of the Abkhaz delegation at the talks, said in his television speech, the talks will be continued in the near future.

Party Leaders Interviewed on Fall Elections

AU1706133592 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 28 May 92 p 3

[Interview with Giorgiy Chanturiya, chairman of the National Democratic Party (NDP); Zurab Nogaydeli, executive secretary of Georgia's Greens; and Irakliy Shengalaya, chairman of the Christian-Democratic Union, on the upcoming parliamentary elections, prepared by David Bagaturiya, Lika Kldiashvili, and Vladimir Gogidze; place and date not given: "A Green Light for the Resolution on the Elections?"]

[Text] SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA decided to give the leaders of several of the republic's political organizations the opportunity to answer a number of questions that are of interest to our readers:

1. What is your attitude to the date of the elections?

2. What was the approach of your party (union) to the Resolution on the Elections that was elaborated by V. Khmaladze's [deputy chairman of the Democratic Choice for Georgia organization, author of all preceding laws on the elections] group? Are you satisfied with everything in it?

3. What are the main principles underlying your party's (union's) preelection campaign?

4. Do you think that the participation in the elections of the supporters of the former president will be a positive factor? What do you think are their chances?

Giorgiy Chanturiya (NDP chairman):

1. I think that the elections could have been held earlier, say in May or June. This would have contributed to a large degree to the stabilization of the political situation.

2. On the whole, our assessment of this draft is positive. However, I would like to point out that these elections will not be based purely on the proportional system.

Furthermore, it should be noted that the voting process reminds one more of a sociological survey than of elections.

Our observations relate to the following point: According to the procedure envisaged in the draft, a "superfluous" vote will be transferred to the candidate who is second in terms of number of votes. This could quite easily be a person representing a party of political opponents of the voter. Why, for example, should a vote for NDP member Irakli Kadagishvili be given, say, to Akaki Asatiani from the Union of Traditionalists? We would like the "superfluous" votes to be redistributed to other candidates from the same party or bloc. The NDP will be fielding several candidates in each district.

3. The NDP's preelection platform will soon be published. The political and economic parts of it have already been prepared. The document essentially repeats the basic tenets of the NDP's preelection platform for the elections to the National Congress. (It was published in the newspaper TBILISI in September 1990).

4. I believe that they should take part in the elections. Our principle is: "All bar one!" I, naturally, have in mind Zviad Gamsakhurdia, whom I consider to be a state criminal.

His supporters' chances in the elections are not great. First and foremost, because they are unable to propose anything constructive, save, perhaps, the idea of a Caucasian-Iberian home. They can count, at best, on 10 percent of the votes in Georgia and on 2-3 percent in Tbilisi.

Zurab Nogaydeli (executive secretary of Georgia's Greens):

1. We view the date of the parliamentary elections—11 October—as being the most optimal. They must not be delayed any longer. Georgia should have a parliament by winter and we should get down to building a law-governed state.

2. We made several observations. In particular, we thought that the signatures of 30,000 electors should be gathered in order to register a political party in the Central Electoral Commission. However, they all opted for the variant that party representatives should gather 500 signatures of support from among the electorate in their electoral district. There were also several other observations. Some were adopted, others were not. However, on the whole, we assess the Resolution on the Elections in a positive way. We believe that this is the most optimal variant today.

3. Our basic principles are: ecology, democracy, nonviolence. However, we will naturally address the electorate with a more developed program. We will complete a preliminary discussion of our policy documents in the next few days and a congress on the policy of Georgia's Greens will be held in mid-June. However, it is now already clear that, as regards the political organization of the state, we favor the complete division of power between legislative, executive, and juridical organs, the division of powers between central and local structures, and broad local self-administration. We favor steady development, a balance between nature and economic development, and private ownership and private entrepreneurial initiative. The protection of the environment is a priority for us.

4. The participation of the supporters of the former president in the elections could become an important step on the path toward the consolidation of society. We believe that their chances depend directly on the government's ability to resolve the socioeconomic problems by the fall.

Irakliy Shengelaya (chairman of the Christian-Democratic Union):

1. When debates were being held on the date of the elections, I supported the view that the elections should take place in October, on 18 October. However, the latter is not so important. The main thing is to achieve a stable situation, something that is so vital for the election of Georgia's parliament. What is taking place in the Republic today does not instill much hope. Given the kind of confrontation that is breaking out almost daily in clashes between people attending rallies and guardians of the law, given the state of emergency, the unrelenting war in the Tskhinvali region, the worsening situation in Abkhazia, and the explosive social situation, it will be impossible to hold elections. These circumstances must be taken into account by everyone who wishes Georgia to be free and independent.

2. I repeat the idea that I put forward before the elections to the Georgian Supreme Council on 28 October 1990, namely that of "everyone in the minority." The realistic implementation of this idea would result in deputies' seats being more or less equally distributed in the Georgian Supreme Council between several parties and leading political forces. The Resolution on the Elections adopted by the State Council and elaborated by V. Khmaladze's group gives a second opportunity to implement precisely this model without, at the same time, granting one political force an overwhelming majority. A one-party majority in parliament does not present any fears in a democratic state that has the structures of a free society. What we have at the moment here is a syndrome of totalitarianism (or authoritarianism) and, given the lack of democratic institutions, the danger of usurpation still exists. The system adopted for the fall elections is the most acceptable. However, as there is no ideal electoral system in the world, this also has its shortcomings. True, they cannot be said to be substantial ones.

3. They can be characterized in short as follows:

a) the maximum encouragement and development of private ownership;
b) the creation of a system of social security based on the accumulation of wealth and not coercion;

c) the maximum freedom of the individual in all spheres of activities;
d) the gradual switch to a federal system in Georgia;
e) the creation of a republican structure of state with a two- chamber parliament;
f) the radical reform of the law enforcement organs, judicial powers, the procurator's office, and the penitentiary system;
g) the creation of a professional army according to the principle of defense sufficiency;
h) the transfer to a system of medical service based on insurance;
i) the development and transformation of the system of national education, the subsidizing of the development of culture, and many other things that are impossible to enumerate.

4. Among the supporters of the former president, I can single out two types of people: fanatical adherents of Gamsakhurdia and politicians who are exploiting the name of the ex-president.

The first type have no solid ground beneath them; they are in a minority and their chances are slim. The political pharisees who, in their time, exploited the name of Gamsakhurdia and who have today rejected him, will constitute a strong force. It is these people of whom one must be wary.

We must put an end once and for all to political pharisaism.

New Acting Information Minister Appointed

AU3006091792 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 26 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] By a resolution of the Republic of Georgia State Council, Archil Grigol dze [son of Grigol] Gogelia has been appointed as acting minister of the press and information and acting chairman of the TV and radio department.

Retired Officers Mobilized; Helicopter Shelled

OW0807153792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1316 GMT 8 Jul 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Georgian Defense Ministry issued an order on mobilization of retired officers to send them to Tskhinval region in the composition of the joint Russian-Ossetian-Georgian forces. After their mission is accomplished every officer is expected to receive 15 thousand rubles.

In his interview with journalists the Georgian Defense Minister Tengiz Kitovani declared that a helicopter with him and with representatives of the control commission on settling conflict in Tskhinval region on board was shelled near Tsalendzhikh by Gamsakhurdia's supporters. "But there were no casualties", Kitovani reported.

Helicopter Downed by Russian Forces in Ossetia

LD0607062792 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 4 Jul 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] RIA reports on 4 July that the Georgian and Ossetian combatants had nothing to do with the shooting down of an Mi-24 helicopter on 28 June at the Tskhinvali Helicopter Base. The airfield's anti-aircraft defenders downed it. A Captain Nekrylov, who was in command of the helicopter, simply did not have flight clearance and the defenders acted in accordance with their instructions. The captain wanted to fly to Russia because he had lost his nerve.

South Ossetia 'Unstable'; Shelling Continues

LD0907015992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] The situation in South Ossetia remains unstable. IRINFORM News Agency correspondent Irina Gukayeva reports:

Tskhinvali is being subjected to shelling. According to the North Ossetian Security Ministry, up until 0000 tonight Georgian armed formations shelled Tskhinvali heavily. A young man was killed by a sniper's bullet and eight people were gravely wounded. Altogether 20 people have been wounded.

A chemical plant was hit by incendiary shells and burned down completely. A motor car repair works is on fire. Last night the oblast hospital and all approaches to it saw heavy shelling. A group of medics belonging to the Medecins Sans Frontieres [Doctors Without Borders] international movement, who are now in Tskhinvali, is developing measures for transferring the hospital to a safe place. The concept of safety, though, has become very relative here.

Meanwhile, in North Ossetia, volunteers are enrolling in peacekeeping detachments to be sent to Tskhinvali. By 14 July they will enter the corridor formed along the line of confrontation between the Ossetian and Georgian sides.

Meanwhile, a routine session of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet was held in Vladikavkaz on 7 July. Among others decisions, the deputies adopted a decision to temporarily unblock the Georgian military highway to let through the families of servicemen evacuated from Georgia. You may recall that the fuel blockade imposed by Georgia on North Ossetia simultaneously with a transport blockade was lifted immediately after the quadripartite agreement was signed in Dagomys.

Rail Traffic Normalizes in West Georgia

LD0907054892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 9 Jul 92

[Text] According to an IPRINDA news agency report, traffic was restored along the railway in western Georgia on the afternoon of 9 July. This became possible thanks to the fact that government troops took control of a number of towns including Zugdidi, where supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the former president of Georgia, have become more active. Some days ago they blocked railway operations in the western region of the republic.

International Bank Recommends Granting Credits

AU0307091392 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0200 GMT 3 Jul 92

[Text] Foreign specialists and representatives of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development participated in the regular republican session for managing and coordinating measures aimed at improving the supply of products to the population. They are in Georgia to help improve and stimulate the economy, transfer it to market relations, and prepare our republic's joining the World Bank. At the session that was chaired by Roman Gotsiridze, Georgian acting deputy prime minister, the foreign experts proposed concrete recommendations for giving credits to our republic for the purchase of wheat. A little later, they themselves contacted employees at the appropriate (?EC) commissions by telephone to secure the necessary guarantees. In this way, it will be possible for our republic to receive advance supplies of (?wheat). However, it was emphasized at the session that we cannot rely on the goodwill of our foreign friends alone; we must use our reserves to the maximum and prepare new [words indistinct].

The members of the commission who analyzed the situation regarding the supply of bread products to the population pointed out that there was a certain reserve of essential products, but it needed to be enlarged. It was stated that several tens of thousands of tonnes of grain were expected to be delivered from Turkey by (?10) July. However, it is clear that we will need to buy at an acceptable price another consignment of wheat, possibly from Poland. Ways to speedily eradicate problems regarding combined fodder and the acceleration of the reconstruction of flour combines in Poti, Samtredia, and Batumi were proposed at the session. The commission heard information on the implementation of decisions adopted at the previous session and discussed certain other questions.

Government Resolution on New Customs Duties

AU1806084592 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 16 May 92 p 2

[Resolution of the Republic of Georgia Government on the Temporary System of Customs Duties; place and date not given]

[Text] The Republic of Georgia Government resolves:

1. To abolish all forms of customs duties on the territory of the Republic of Georgia that were established by organs of the former USSR.
2. To set a single customs duty on the export transaction of all types of goods at the rate of 8 percent of the value of the contract in hard currency or rubles as stipulated in the contract at the market exchange rate fixed by the National Bank at the moment of crossing the frontier.
3. To set a single customs duty on the import transaction of all types of goods at the rate of 2 percent of the value of the contract in hard currency or rubles as stipulated in the contract at the market exchange rate fixed by the National Bank at the moment of crossing the frontier.
4. To exempt from import customs duty medicines and food products with the exception of tobacco goods and alcoholic drinks.
5. To establish a single customs duty for transactions involving the exchange of goods (barter) at the rate of 20 percent of the value of the contract in rubles at the market exchange rate set by the National Bank on the date of the export transshipment. The payment of this customs duty is to be made within one month following the export transshipment.
6. The customs duties stipulated in this resolution apply to all enterprises, organizations, and establishments irrespective of their forms of ownership.
7. The customs duties set will not apply to freight flow under Republic of Georgia intergovernmental agreements.
8. To regard the customs duty concessions fixed before 1 May 1992 as being no longer valid.
9. The date of payment of customs duties is to be determined according to customs rules.
10. This resolution is to be published in the press.

T. Sigua, acting chairman of the Government and acting prime minister of the Republic of Georgia

G. Beridze, acting manager of the State Office of the Government of the Republic of Georgia

Gas Pipeline to Armenia Resumes Operation

LD0507024892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 3 Jul 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The SNARK news agency reports that the gas pipeline to Armenia resumed operation on 3 July. It was closed on South Ossetian territory on 24 May during the well-known events there.